



# ACCESSIBILITY Improvement PROGRAM



*Preserving Homes,  
Enhancing Lives*

### **Program Purpose**

The Accessibility Improvement Program offers technical and financial assistance to very low-income households with permanent disabilities to enhance mobility and access to the home.

### **Eligible Applicants**

Owner-occupants, who are permanently disabled and whose gross annual income does not exceed 50% of the Santa Clara County Area Median Income (AMI), adjusted for household size. *Please refer to the Eligibility Criteria for eligible income levels and asset restrictions (see attached for household size).*

### **Eligible Properties**

Mobilehomes or single-family properties located in the City of San José.

### **Grant Limit**

The maximum grant amount is \$10,000. However, the final grant amount will be the actual cost of repairs or improvements as determined by Housing Department staff.

### **Terms**

- The actual cost of repairs cannot exceed \$10,000
- Property must have been owned by the applicant for a minimum of one year prior to application
- Repairs or improvements will be prioritized by the Housing Rehabilitation Inspector based on health and safety
- Grant approval is subject to underwriting criteria and asset limitations in effect at the time of application
- Applicant must sign a Grant Agreement with the City of San José
- Certain improvements may be ineligible or beyond the scope of this grant; this decision is determined by the Housing Rehabilitation Inspector
- Properties constructed prior to 1978 must be tested for lead-based paint
- Grants require no repayment unless the property is sold within three years of the grant approval date
- Grants are available only one-time per property and per owner
- Grants are made at the discretion of the Housing Department

*\*Programs are subject to change without notification*

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Housing



### **Eligible Repairs**

Improvements under the Accessibility Grant include:

- Permanent ramps
- Exterior lifts
- Grab bars and safety rails
- Tub shower conversions
- Widening entry doors
- Other emergency improvements as authorized by Housing staff

### **Ineligible Repairs**

- Significant structural alterations
- First to second story lifts and elevators
- Personal property such as whirlpool spas or exercise equipment

### **Application Process**

A Housing Rehabilitation Inspector will contact the homeowner to set up an inspection appointment. The inspector will conduct a complete inspection of the property, including the inside of the home. If the inspector determines that the grant amount is adequate to resolve all necessary repairs, and that the property has no other serious health and safety related issues, the inspector will provide a grant application. Once the complete application is submitted, and basic program eligibility has been established, the application will be processed for approval. Following approval, Housing Department staff will coordinate with the homeowner to select a contractor to perform the needed work.

If the required health and safety repairs exceed the grant amount, the applicant may be required to apply for a Program loan to cover the costs of the repairs that exceed the grant amount. As a condition of the City's grant, all critical health and safety related needs must be addressed. *Please contact Housing staff for additional information.*

### **Contact Information**

City of San José  
Department of Housing  
200 East Santa Clara Street, 12th floor  
San José, California 95113  
408.975.4440 Housing Rehabilitation  
[www.sjhousing.org/program/repairs.html](http://www.sjhousing.org/program/repairs.html)