



# Bringing Accessibility to Mobility New and Old

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# About Me

- Born with cerebral palsy
- Transit policy, planning, engineering
- Disability transportation advocate



# Different people with different disabilities\*



*\* Not an exhaustive list of different types of disabilities*

# Quick Transit Accessibility History



# ADAPT Bus Protests



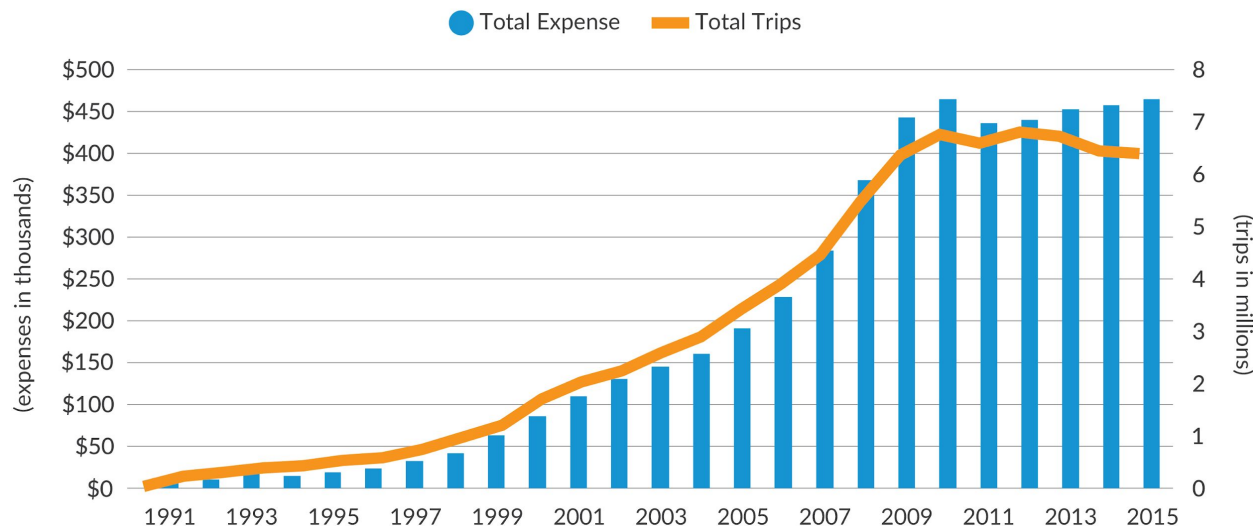
Credit: Denver Public Library

<https://history.denverlibrary.org/news/we-will-ride-origin-disability-rights-movement-denver-0>

# Paratransit over elevators



Figure 2: Access-A-Ride Completed Trips and Expense, 1990 to 2015



Note: Data for 1990 total expense not available; data for 1993 total trips estimated.

Source: Metropolitan Transportation Authority, *Adopted Budget, February Financial Plan* (annual editions 2009 to 2016), Paratransit Operations; data provided by Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Paratransit division; City of New York, *Mayor's Management Report* (annual editions 1990 to 1993), Department of Transportation, *Missions and Indicators*, and *Executive Budget, Supporting Schedules* (annual editions 1990 to 1993).

# July 26, 1990: ADA

*“I now lift my pen to sign this Americans with Disabilities Act and say: Let the shameful wall of exclusion finally come tumbling down.”*



# Transit Today in New York



## 28 Years After ADA's Passage, Subway Accessibility Still 'Disgraceful,' Experts Say

By **Jeanmarie Evely**  | July 30, 2018



# NOTICE

Please excuse the inconvenience.  
This elevator is out of service until 10/1/2011.



Elevator to Uptown

1

No Smoking in Elevator

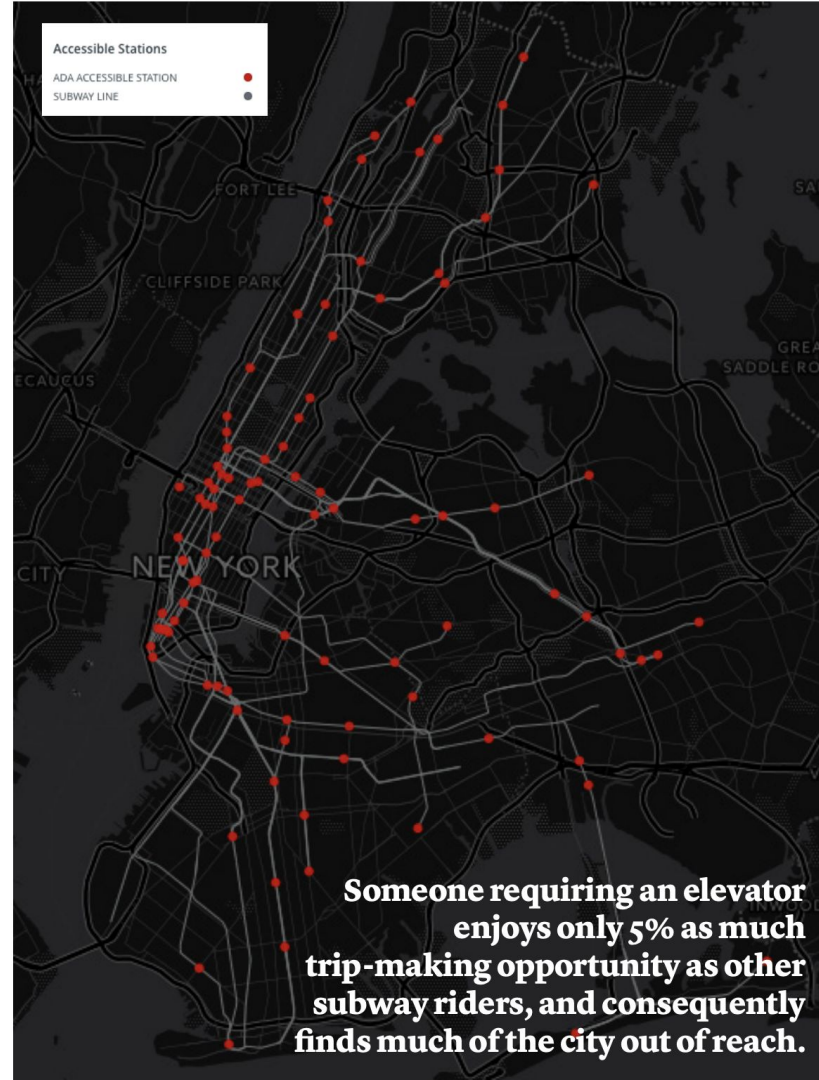
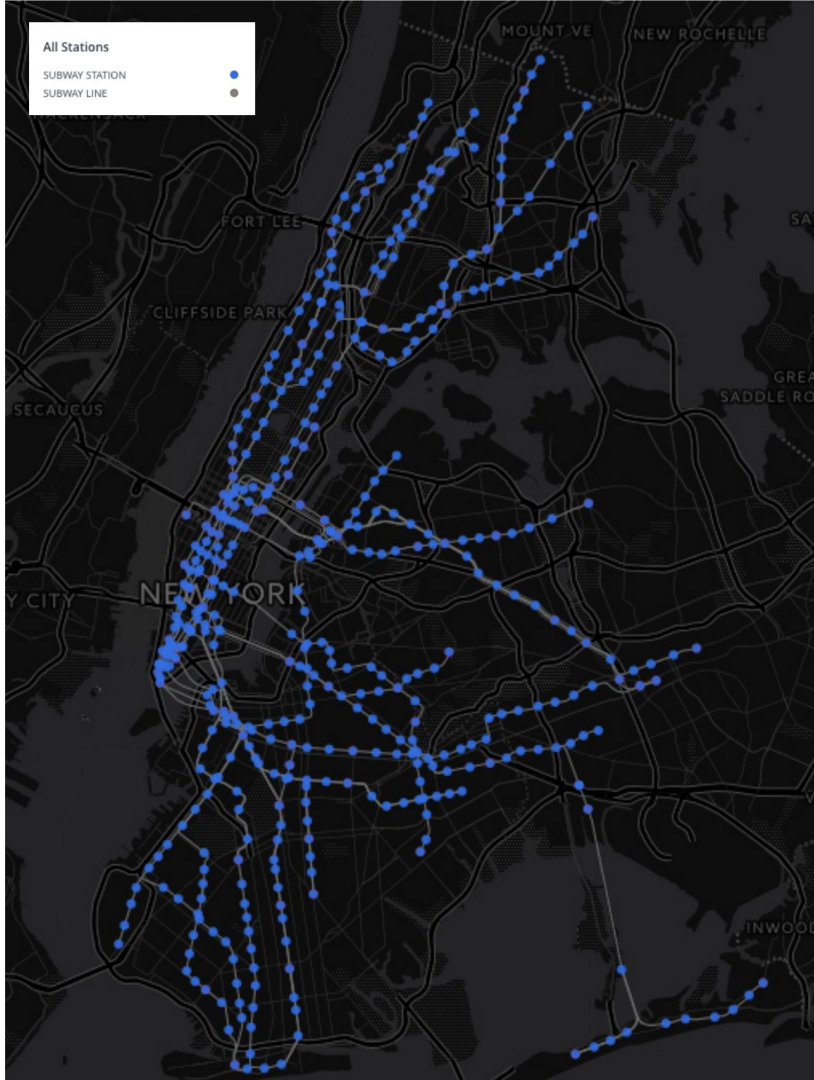


UP TOWN











**SHARE OF STATIONS**  
with elevator access

**23%**

**NUMBER OF OUTAGES**  
a rider can expect to encounter in  
one year at the current elevator  
availability of 95.7%

**90**



**25**

**AVERAGE OUTAGES**  
elevators throughout the system  
experience on a daily basis

**70**

**YEARS UNTIL**  
the NYC subway system will be  
fully ADA accessible at the current  
pace of elevator construction





## TRANSIT

# AARP backs transit advocates' call for new MTA revenue streams

Subway elevator installation work is a top priority for the city's seniors, the organization said.



The AARP joins advocates in calling on the governor and state lawmakers to identify new funding streams for the MTA. Photo Credit: Vincent Barone



NEW YORK



TRANSPORTATION WEEK

# The NYC subway has an accessibility problem—can it be fixed?

*Two class-action lawsuits have thrown the subway system's lack of wheelchair accessibility into sharp relief*

By **Emily Nonko** | Sep 21, 2017, 1:26pm EDT

Photography by **Max Touhey**



## Tunnel Vision

# New York's Subway Is Hell for Riders with Disabilities

Only 24 percent of the system's 472 stations are ADA-accessible.

By John Surico

May 18 2018, 8:59am  Share  Tweet



AN ACTIVIST FROM THE ELEVATOR ACTION GROUP WITH RISE AND RESIST SPEAKING TO NYCT PRESIDENT ANDY BYFORD. PHOTO VIA PACIFIC PRESS.

## ***M.T.A. Pledges \$5 Billion for Subway Elevators. Guess How Many.***

Disabled and older riders say they are long overdue. Transit advocates question the price tag.



A woman carried a child in a stroller up a staircase at the Broadway Station in Queens, one of the many subway stations that do not have an elevator. Marian Carrasquero for The New York Times

# Going forward

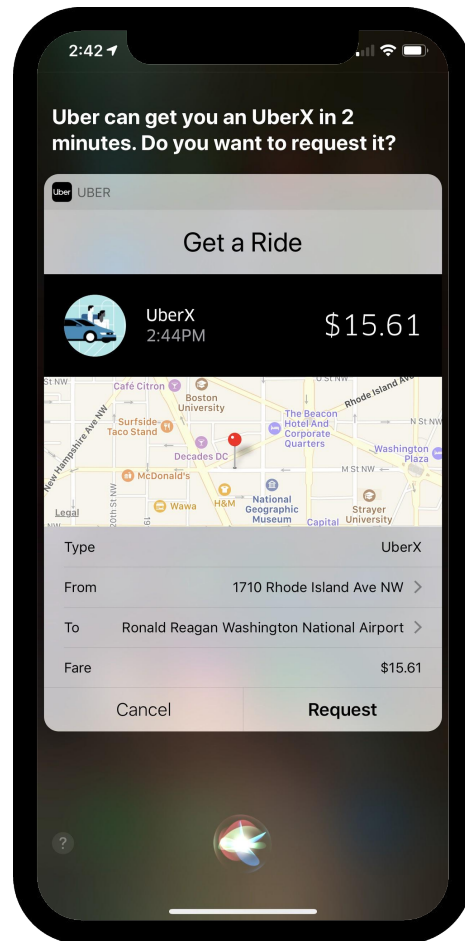
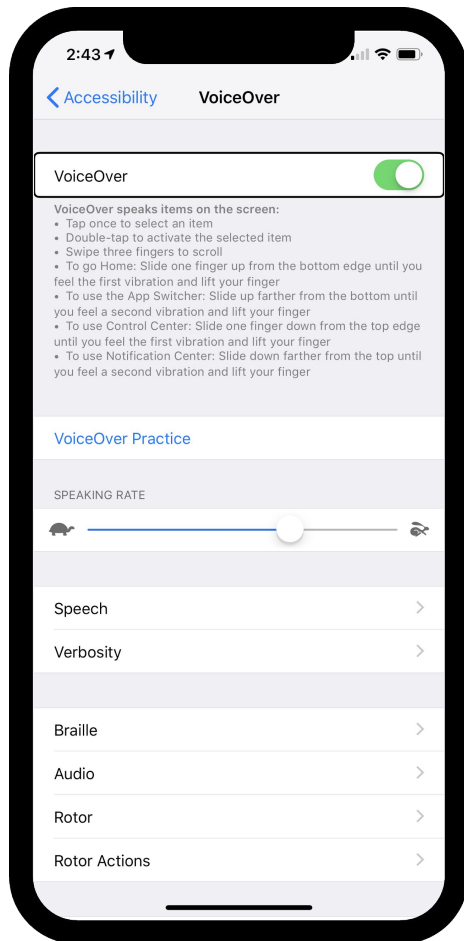
- Fight for inclusion continues in New York
- Critical: primary means of transport, and 1/3rd of US transit ridership
- Legal, advocacy, internal back channels for next 20 years



# New Mobility Accessibility

**People who are blind  
or have low vision**







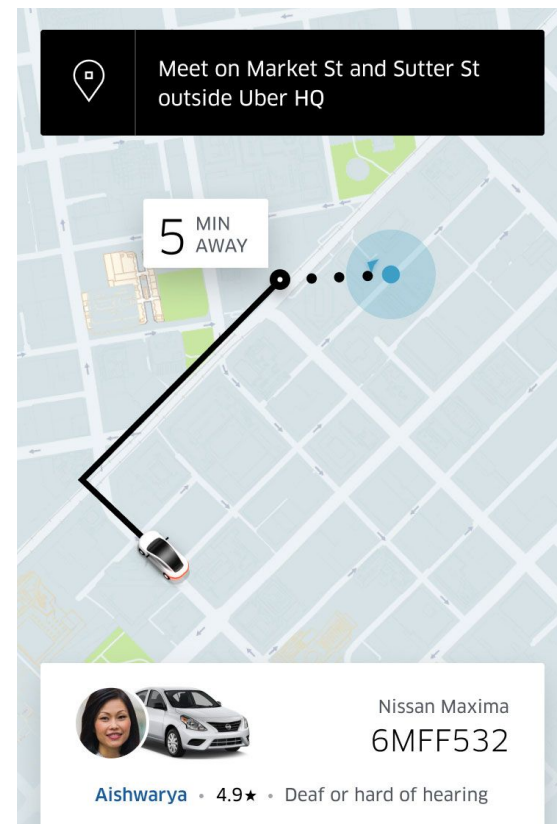
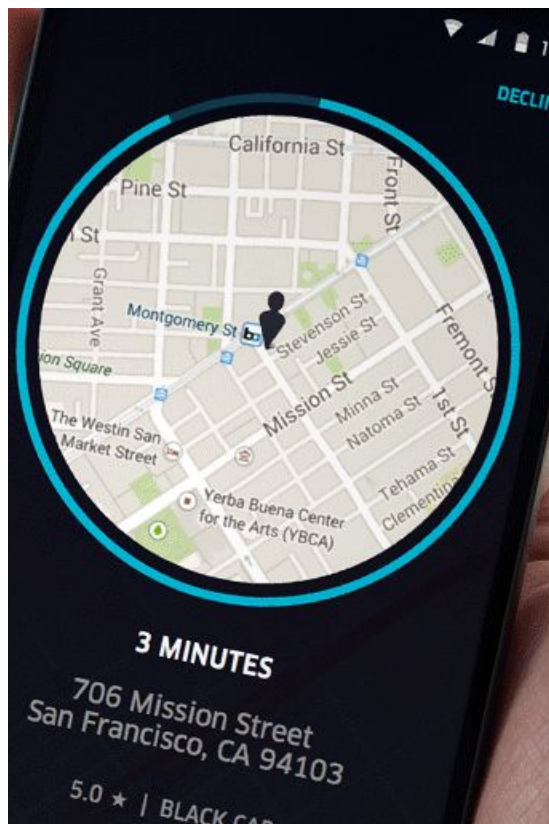
**Cashless payments.**  
**Upfront pricing.**  
**Anti-discrimination**  
**rules.**  
**Service animal**  
**policies.**





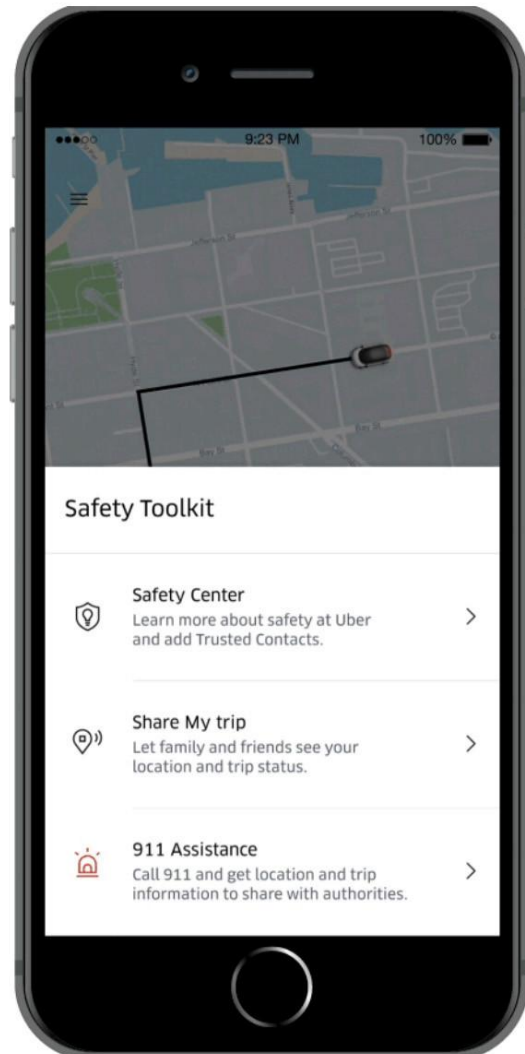
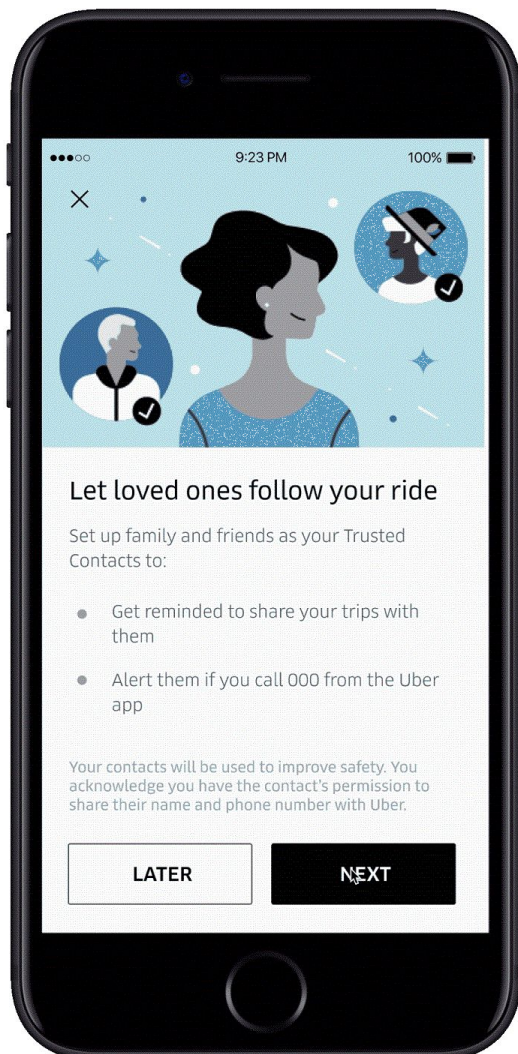
**People who are deaf  
or hard of hearing**





**People who have  
cognitive or  
intellectual disabilities**





[New Ride](#)[Drafts \(4\)](#)

Rider's Name

First name

Last name

Rider's Phone Number

+1

Phone number

Mobile ▾

Route

• Pickup location

• Dropoff location

Vehicle Class

Select vehicle class ▾

Note for the Driver (optional)

Custom message for the driver

Trip Memo (optional)

REQUEST NOW

SAVE FOR LATER

## Trips

[Waiting for pickup](#)[In transit](#)

• Devin S. 300-996-0610

Arriving now

• Barbara 511-498-0647  
Red Lincoln Navigator (23J5KP)

• Nailah M. 313-595-8141

2 min

• Prince 819-841-9960  
Blue Honda Accord LX (AZL132)

• Allie T. 591-672-2038

6 min

• Izetta 172-064-6408  
Black Mazda CX-3 Touring (578LR3)

• Alejandro J. 658-382-1830

Requesting

• Optimizing pickup and matching  
nearby drivers...

**People who use  
wheelchairs or have  
other mobility needs**





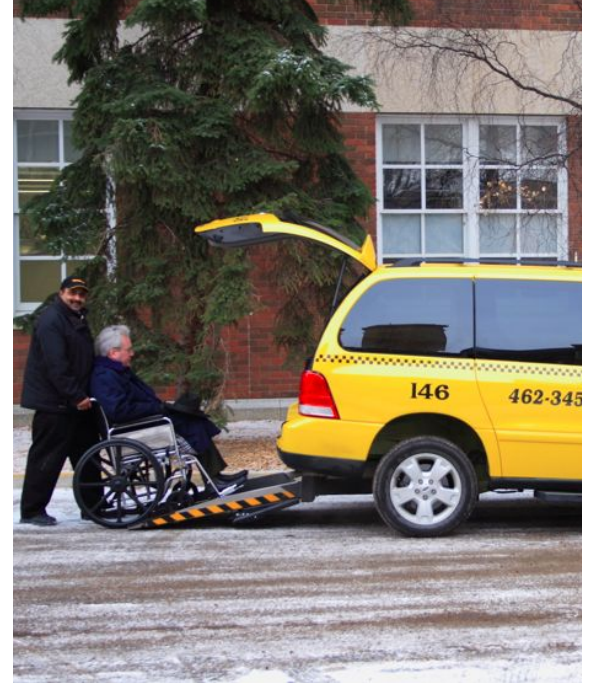
# People who use wheelchairs or have other mobility needs



**UberX for folding wheelchairs**



**Personally-owned WAVs**

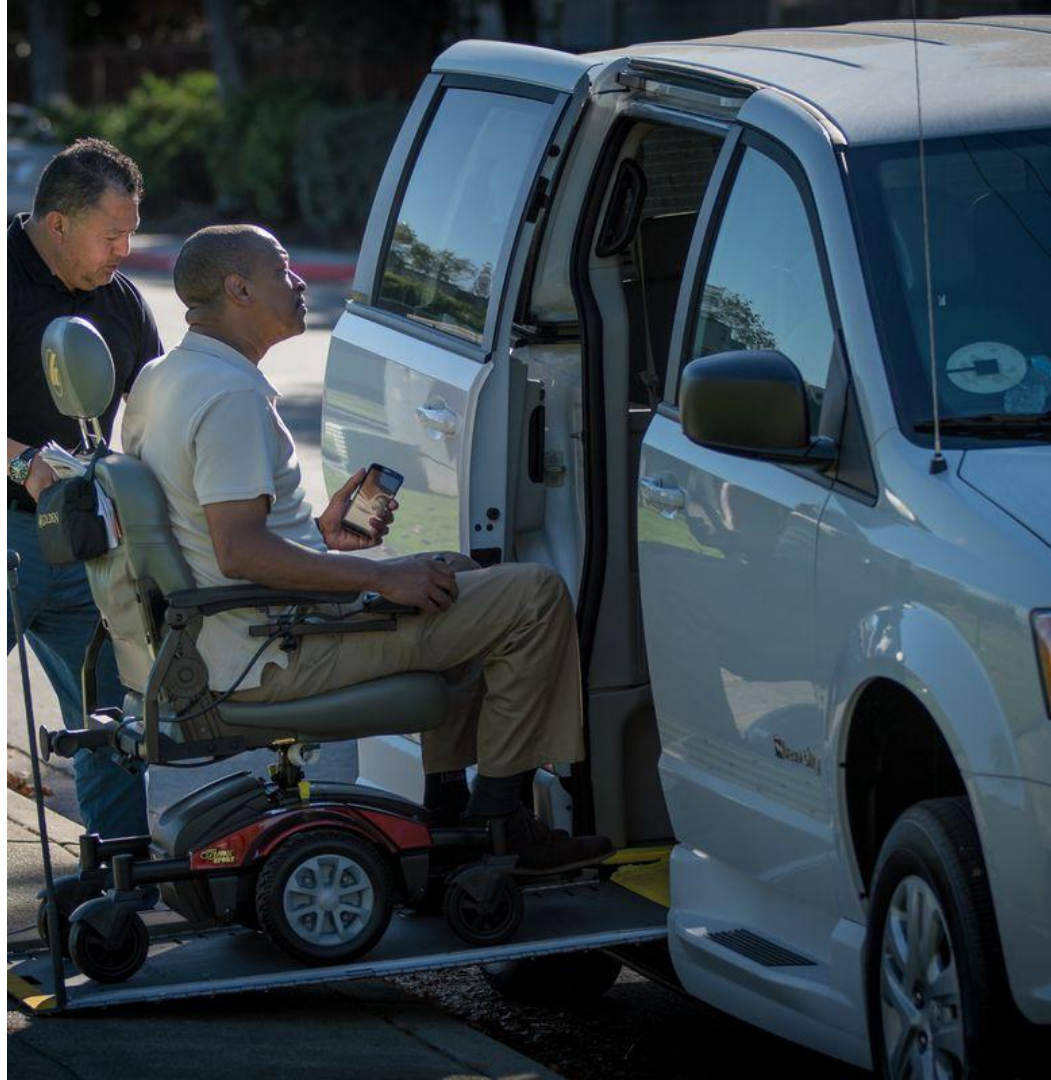


**Taxi or renting/leasing options**



# Commercial WAV providers

Uber works with  
commercial organizations  
to provide more reliable  
wheelchair accessible  
transportation options



**But we all  
still have  
much work  
to do**



Credit: Gothamist

<https://gothamist.com/news/new-41-million-hunters-point-library-has-one-major-flaw>

An aerial photograph of a city at sunset, showing various buildings, trees, and a body of water in the distance. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue.

# Thank you

Learn more: [accessibility.uber.com](https://accessibility.uber.com)

# Uber