

## COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

**MEETING DATE:** February 23, 2026  
**AGENDA NUMBER:** 11  
**ITEM:** Website Accessibility Audit and Compliance

---

**AGENDA:** Information

---

### ACTION REQUESTED

None

### PURPOSE

Provide Board members with information on the federal requirements for local government to comply with federal web accessibility requirements and Staff's plan to ensure CCWD complies by the April 2027 deadline.

### BACKGROUND/CONTEXT

In April 2024 the Department of Justice (DOJ) updated its regulations for Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to include specific requirements for state and local governments to comply with Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.2 Level AA accessibility standards.

These changes are intended to ensure that local government websites and their content are accessible to people with disabilities, including those with visual, audio, or mobility impairments that may use adaptive technology to access government services.

WCAG 2.2 Level AA accessibility standards include items such as video captions, alternative text, image descriptions, contrast ratios, keyboard operability, and screen reader compatibility.

As a special district, CCWD's compliance date is April 2027.

### APPROACH

This effort will be completed within the adopted 2026 budget.

Over the past several months, staff have been in communication with other watershed districts, CCWD's web developer, and multiple web accessibility consultants to develop a plan of action for bringing the website into compliance by April 2027. This plan includes:

1. Completion of an Accessibility Audit
  - a. Upon completion of the audit, an Audit Report will be issued detailing areas of non-compliance. Report will include issue details, affected audience, remediation recommendations, and priority levels.
2. Address areas of non-compliance detailed in the Audit Report
  - a. CCWD Web Developer (Plaudit) completes coding-based corrections
  - b. CCWD Staff (Engagement Coordinator) completes non-coding corrections
3. Confirmation of corrections and compliance by Allyant
  - a. Upon confirmation of compliance, CCWD receives a compliance badge to display on website
4. Maintenance

- a. CCWD Staff will develop and implement a compliance checklist to be used when uploading new content to ensure continued compliance.

Allyant Accessibility Services has been selected to complete this work alongside the District's current web developer, Plaudit. Allyant was recommended by several other organizations, including Plaudit, and provided the most cost-effective and flexible scope of work for this effort.

#### **REFERENCES**

- DOJ Fact Sheet: <https://www.ada.gov/resources/2024-03-08-web-rule/>
- WCAG 2.2 AA Details: <https://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG22/>
- Web Accessibility – Why It's Important: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=zYpXzXKu8lk](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zYpXzXKu8lk)