

# ACCESSIBLE PARIS



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# Éditorial



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**Editorial by Anne Hidalgo,**  
Mayor of Paris

From the very start of my term in office, I aimed to implement a wide-ranging urban transformation policy that would make Paris's public spaces fully accessible. I am convinced that an accessible city empowers all its citizens by ensuring that everyone has real independence.

Over the last few years, the Paris Games have been an opportunity to accelerate our initiatives to ensure that people with disabilities have access to the same rights and services as everyone else. Our bus network is now fully accessible. Our city has 17 enhanced accessibility neighbourhoods. New sports facilities have been built and will enable the development of sporting activities for all going forward.

I am well aware that we still have a long way to go. That is why we have decided to train all our staff in interacting with and serving all members of the public, whatever their disabilities. Paris's public services, which are a shared asset for all Parisians, have also been rapidly transformed to make them truly accessible.

We can be proud of the progress we have made. We know that an inaccessible environment is a source of exclusion and discrimination. Without accessibility, a citizen's rights to education, employment, health or culture may be jeopardised. In Paris, we will never resign ourselves to such an injustice. In Paris, we will continue to promote the essential accessibility revolution!



**Editorial by Lamia El Aaraje,**

Deputy Mayor for Urban Planning, Architecture, Greater Paris,  
Universal Accessibility and People with Disabilities

For many people, being unable to access a place or a service is an everyday occurrence. People with permanent or temporary disabilities, pregnant women and the elderly are just a few examples. This exclusion is unacceptable. Under the law, there are no second-class citizens. With this in mind, we initiated a substantive policy to make our city accessible. In the words of the Mayor of Paris, we are at the dawn of an accessibility revolution in Paris, with a clear goal: real equality. Our policy is designed to live up to our initial ambition: to ensure that finally, everyone can travel around Paris independently, access public services independently, and have the independence to live with dignity. We are transforming the city to make accessibility a key legacy of the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games. And we did not want to limit ourselves to regulatory constraints and the law of 2005, which obliges local authorities to make their public facilities accessible by 2025. Because those constraints are not enough.

Being able to get around independently is the first requirement for access to public services. We know that even today, transport is still a worry and a difficulty for many of our fellow citizens, whether they have a disability, have young children in pushchairs, or are elderly, for example. To improve the situation, we started with what falls within the City's purview to make Paris bus routes 100% accessible, with 1,750 stops now accessible. This commitment by the City of Paris is also part of the legacy of the Games, in which 22 million euros have been invested. The fast-track schedule for the Games has made it possible to achieve this in just three years.

And in Paris, accessibility is not just a material matter. In addition to physical access, it is vital to train all our staff, particularly in public facilities, and to raise awareness of disability issues. That is how we will ensure that all members of the public are well catered for, and that all disabilities are accommodated. The City of Paris is fully committed to accessibility; the Council majority and the Mayor of Paris have allocated €125 million to universal accessibility between now and the end of their term. This is a central process that mobilises a wide range of stakeholders with whom we work on a daily basis: the network of nonprofit organisations without which nothing would be possible, City of Paris employees, our departments and our institutional partners. We're pressing on!

## Key figures

**€125 million**

allocated to accessibility by the end of the term of office.

**91 %**

of municipal buildings to be accessible by 2025.

**100% accessible bus routes:**

59 routes and 1,750 accessible stops, €22 million invested.

**100% accessible tram lines:**

8 lines, 103 km, 184 accessible stations.

**1,000**

additional parking spaces reserved for people with reduced mobility (PRM) by the end of the current term in 2026, on top of the 4,400 existing spaces.

**235**

sports clubs catering for people with disabilities.

**Nearly 90%**

of Parisian primary schools accept children with specific educational needs, including children with disabilities.

**1,790**

audible signals at 228 intersections for blind and partially sighted pedestrians.

**17**

districts of enhanced accessibility.

**200**

public facilities made accessible.



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## The Olympic and Paralympic Games, accelerating accessibility policies

Transport: a 100% accessible bus and tram network in Paris



© Joséphine Brueder / City of Paris

Access to transport is a necessity for all Parisians. With this in mind, the City of Paris has carried out major works over the last few years to make surface transport fully accessible.

In May 2024, the City of Paris inaugurated the accessibility of all 59 bus lines, in time for the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

A bus line is 100% accessible if 70% of the stops are accessible. Since 30 April 2024, this target has been met, with more than 1,700 of the 2,300 stops in Paris now accessible.

Over the last three years, works were carried out on more than 380 sites to meet this ambitious target, for a cost of €22 million.

The tramway is also 100% accessible, with 8 lines and 184 accessible stations covering 103 km.

The City of Paris is also paying close attention to the accessibility of lines shared by Paris and its suburbs, to make all everyday commutes accessible to everyone. Work is underway with RATP to ensure that these lines are accessible by the end of 2024.

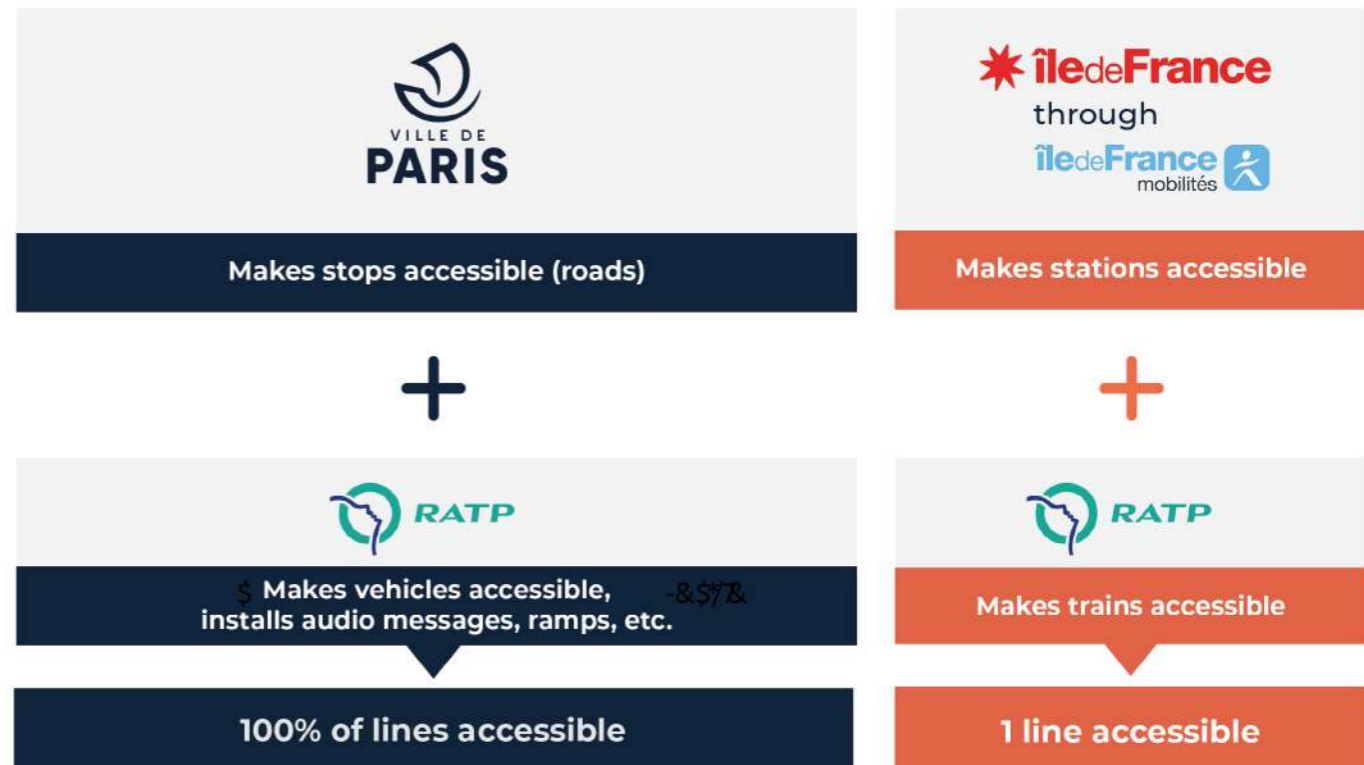
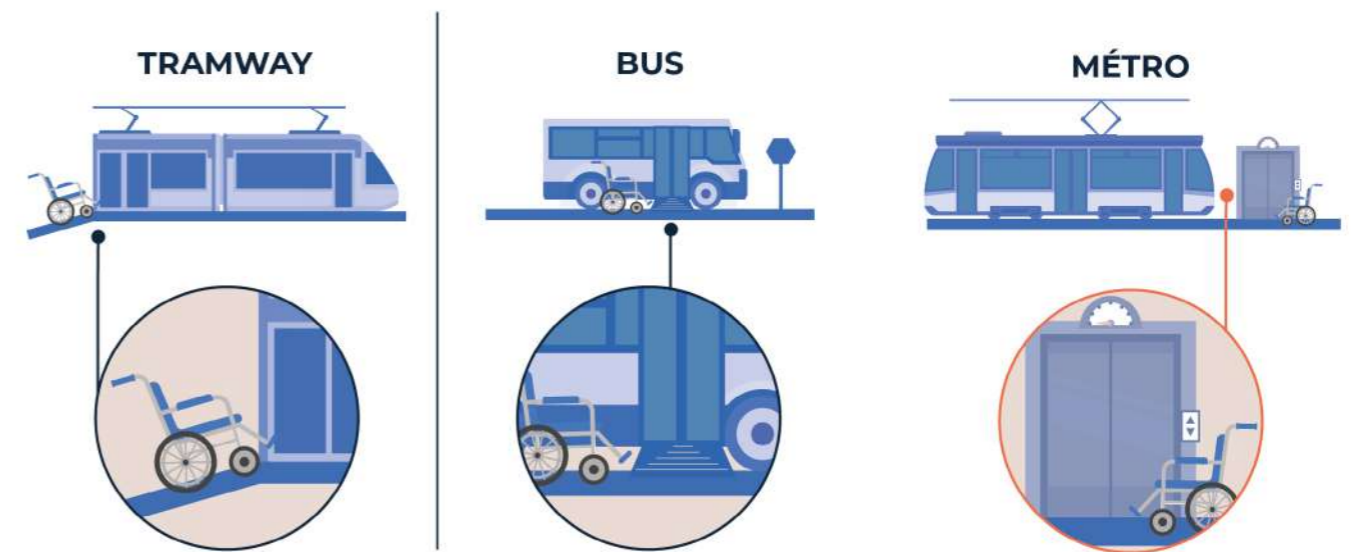
In addition, to make it easier for people to get around independently, **the City has undertaken to create 1,000 additional parking spaces for people with reduced mobility (PRM) by the end of the Council term in 2026.** These will join the existing 4,400 PRM spaces.

Finally, to make it easier for Parisians to get around on a daily basis and to encourage the use of soft mobility, the City of Paris grants subsidies for the purchase of an adaptive bike.

### To Help With Mobility (PAM)

The City of Paris operates PAM (Pour Aider à la Mobilité or To Help With Mobility), a specialised and collective on-demand public transport service. It was set up in 2002 to make it easier for people with reduced mobility, disabilities or dependency to get around. A specially trained driver picks users up at their home in an adapted vehicle and drops them off at their destination.

## MAKING TRANSPORT ACCESSIBLE: WHO DOES WHAT?



**i** The City of Paris and RATP regularly exchange information to improve the accessibility service: driver training, bus traffic and frequency, etc.

## Handi'Stat: a system to facilitate parking for people with disabilities

### What is Handi'Stat?



It's a computerised number plate registration system offered by the City of Paris that lets you park for free in Paris (+ Bois de Vincennes and Bois de Boulogne).



Handi'Stat is open to holders of the French CMI-S card or EU parking card.

Registration lasts three years.

You can register up to **two number plates of your choice**: your vehicle's and/or that of your companion (family, friend, relative, carer).

### In a nutshell

#### Why register on Handi'Stat?

With this **three-year registration**, you no longer have to get a free Handi ticket:

Either at the meter Or on the mobile application



Or display your CMI-S or EU parking card behind your windscreen.

To find out more about parking in Paris for people with disabilities, scan the QR code.



## Everyday life: Paris inaugurates 17 enhanced accessibility neighbourhoods



Enhanced accessibility neighbourhoods (quartier d'accessibilité augmentée or QAA) are a key measure in the Paris City Council's accessibility policy to give everyone access to everyday services and functions. **Each of these neighbourhoods offers a priority route to various public facilities, all of which are fully accessible.** Inaugurated on 4 July 2024, the enhanced accessibility neighbourhoods are a flagship commitment by the City of Paris in terms of universal accessibility, **above and beyond its regulatory obligations.**

**Testimonial by Pierre Ciolfi, president of the Paris committee of the Valentin-Haüy association, which supports people with visual impairments, and vice-president of the CDCA (departmental council for citizenship and autonomy):**

"I'd rather be disabled today in Paris than twenty years ago."



**These neighbourhoods are “exemplary areas”** where everyone, whatever their situation (families with pushchairs, the elderly, people with disabilities, etc.), can easily get around in Paris and access municipal services in their neighbourhood. Enhanced accessibility neighbourhoods have a clear goal: to enable people to live independently from childhood throughout adulthood, with access to early childhood facilities, schools, and culture and recreation facilities in the same area.

**The City of Paris has invested €500,000 per enhanced accessibility neighbourhood in adapting facilities to all types of disability, for a total of €8.5 million.** Streets, public facilities and shops have been adapted to accommodate individuals with any type of disability (ramps and tactile strips, adapted pavements and bus stops, removal of obstacles, creation of PRM parking spaces, etc.).

To ensure that all Parisians can benefit, there are currently 17 enhanced accessibility neighbourhoods, one in each district, and this number is set to increase.

350,000 people with disabilities are expected to attend the Olympic and Paralympic Games. As such, the Games have accelerated the social and political transformation that the city has been working on since 2014. **The Olympics deadline has allowed the enhanced accessibility neighbourhoods to be implemented in 18 to 24 months, whereas two decades of work were initially planned.**

The City of Paris also took advantage of the opportunity presented by the Paris Games in terms of legacy. While the enhanced accessibility neighbourhoods are part of the Paris 2024 programme, it is Parisians who will benefit from them on a day-to-day basis over the long term. The Olympic and Paralympic Games will serve as an observation and evaluation period for these new neighbourhoods, prior to a post-Games consultation process with a view to scaling up the scheme. At the same time, work to increase the number of accessible spaces continues.

The Paris volunteers who raise awareness about universal accessibility among retailers and local residents and provide information on assistance schemes have visited each of the 17 enhanced accessibility neighbourhoods. They are mapping accessible public facilities to contribute to the “Accès Libre” collaborative platform, which lists more than 443,000 accessible locations.

In addition to these measures, **training for staff of municipal facilities and retail businesses, along with awareness-raising among local residents, are essential for these neighbourhoods to work properly**, going beyond the physical accessibility of the premises to offer a complete experience for all. Particular attention is paid to training staff in how to receive and support people with disabilities.

With the Olympics on the horizon, these awareness-raising measures for municipal facilities and retailers are being stepped up and coupled with a publicity campaign that includes posters and stickers in every public facility, as well as explanatory and illustrative signs (initially in the 10th and 13th districts, and then extended to all the enhanced accessibility neighbourhoods).







The map of enhanced accessibility neighbourhoods is available here.

**Under the City's initiative, almost 200 public facilities in Paris have been made fully accessible, including:**

- **Central Paris:**
  - Berthe Hirsh Maternal and Infant Health Centre (PMI), 2, rue de Moussy
  - Carnavalet Museum, 23, rue de Sevigné
  - Victor Hugo Museum, 6, place des Vosges
  - Saint-Jacques Tower Square, 39, rue de Rivoli
- **5th district:** Maternal and Infant Health Centre (PMI), 34, rue Poliveau

- **6th district:** Day care centre, 10, rue Lobineau
- **7th district:** Bilingual elementary school, 8, rue Chomel
- **8th district:** Jacqueline-Auriol sports centre, 7, allée Louis-de-Funès
- **9th district:**
  - Louise Walser-Gaillard library, 26, rue Chaptal
  - Elementary school, 10, rue de Clichy
- **10th district:** Françoise Sagan multimedia library, 8, rue Léon-Schwartzberg
- **11th district:** Municipal crèche, 19, rue Pelée
- **12th district:** Bessie Smith recreation centre, 19, rue Antoine-Julien-Hénard
- **13th district:** Notre-Dame de la Gare church, place Jeanne-d'Arc
- **14th district:** Musée de la Libération de Paris, 4, avenue du Colonel Henri Rol-Tanguy
- **15th district:** Municipal crèche, 19, rue Pelée
- **16th district:** Pierre de Coubertin Stadium, 82, avenue Georges-Lafont
- **17th district:** Arc de Triomphe, Place Charles de Gaulle
- **18th district:** Fleury Goutte d'Or Barbara music centre, 1, rue Fleury
- **19th district:** Games library, 21, rue Bouret
- **20th district:** George Vallerey swimming pool, 148, avenue Gambetta

After the Games, a major consultation will be held with all stakeholders on the subject of disability and accessibility: nonprofit organisations, local disability committees, district councils, shopkeepers, transport operators, tourism and cultural operators, schools and health centres. Every Parisian will be invited to observe and evaluate the gains in accessibility made during the Games. The consultation will conclude with a Paris accessibility conference on 3 December 2024—International Day of Persons with Disabilities. The conference will bring together other European and C40 capitals, and a number of French local authorities committed to the issue.

**Georges Vallerey swimming pool made accessible in the run-up to the Olympic and Paralympic Games, in the 20th district's enhanced accessibility neighbourhood**



The Georges Vallerey swimming pool in Paris's 20th district was built for the 1924 Summer Olympics and is the oldest venue to have been renovated for the 2024 Games. Works have been carried out to bring it back up to standard and provide optimum conditions for athletes and the general public. The Vallerey pool is one of five Parisian training venues for the Paris 2024 Games. To improve accessibility, safe relaxation areas for wheelchair users have been created, as have accessible bathrooms. The steps in the foot baths have been replaced with slopes, and the stairs improved with warning strips, stair nosings and handrails. The roof has been redone, the foyer refurbished with an improved reception desk, a kennel area installed for guide dogs, along with accessible toilets, improved signage and access gates for people with reduced mobility. The acoustic comfort of the pool area has been improved and the technical equipment modernised. The renovation cost almost €12.5 million, and included the reuse of 25 tonnes of timber and the use of eco-certified wood. The upgrade has enabled lighting consumption to be reduced by 40%.

**Sports: Thanks to the Olympic and Paralympic Games, Paris has gained new, fully accessible sports facilities and is expanding access to sport**



The Olympic and Paralympic Games have boosted the transformation of Paris. Accessibility has been a central aspect of the City of Paris's vision from the moment it made its bid to host the 2024 Games. Indeed, one of the hosting requirements was that the same venues be used for the Olympic and Paralympic Games. The most striking example is the Porte de la Chapelle Arena, where this approach was taken very far, making it the first building of its kind to be awarded the Certivea accessibility label.

### A legacy of Olympic venues that are accessible to all Parisians

**The Adidas Arena: an emblematic sports, ecological and social project that is exemplary in terms of accessibility**



The Adidas Arena at Porte de la Chapelle in the 18th district of Paris was inaugurated in February 2024. It includes two gymnasiums and will host several events for the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

With nearly 8,000 seats, the Arena is a major asset for developing high level sport and hosting major sports events in the capital. Building this new multi-function venue was also an undertaking of the bid to host the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games, to promote sport and as a legacy for the residents of Paris.

It is a flagship project on an ecological level, as it benefited from an exemplary worksite; on a social level, as it was designed to support local sport with two gymnasiums for community organisations; and in terms of accessibility.

Its design fully integrates the concept of universal accessibility and has earned it the Accessibility label, which has never before been applied to an arena. Accessible features include:

- Its location and ease of access, spaces for wheelchair users, and easy-to-access seats
- Unisex toilets and undifferentiated access for the general public
- A "sensory room" for people with behavioural disorders or autism—the first of its kind in a sports venue in France.

### Accessible and adapted sports participation for all



With 40 new sections in three years, the network of Para-friendly Sports Clubs is a real success!

The "Réseau des Clubs Paraccueillants" (Para-friendly Sports Clubs Network) aims to open up physical activity and sports to people with disabilities everywhere in France. Supported by the City of Paris, in partnership with the French Paralympic Sports Committee and the two regional Disabled Sport and Adapted Sports Committees, the Para-friendly Sports Clubs Network is preparing the ground in Paris to welcome any disabled person who wants to take part in a sports activity. Indeed, the organisation of the Paralympic Games has seen an increase in demand to join sports clubs. To meet this demand, the Para-friendly Sports Clubs Network is driving the sports movement to develop a parasports offering across the whole of France.

The network offers to put interested clubs in touch with various organisations in Paris who work with or serve people with disabilities, such as health and social care facilities or community organisations. The Departmental parasport and adapted

sport committees of Paris are the driving forces behind this network, providing assistance to clubs that are putting their projects in place and then monitoring them once they are implemented. The system also offers clubs financial and material support, helps them to promote their offerings via different forms of communication, and offers the possibility to join parasport and adapted sport federations.

Joining the Parasport Clubs Network starts with training, which introduces clubs to the wide spectrum of disabilities and helps them understand the challenges of physical activity and sport in this field.



**Testimonial from Romain Tran Van, Parasport Facilities Manager and Operator of the Para-friendly Sports Clubs system**

"The Para-friendly Sports Club Network faces a major challenge: making it so that any person with a disability can play the sport of their choice, like anybody else.

This idea of a network that the City wanted to put in place promises great things in view of the dynamic that is forming between the member clubs. It's a real source of satisfaction!

This system is trying to remove the maximum number of obstacles for developing parasports that associations may encounter. But, like any system, it has its limits and unfortunately it can't solve everything (notably when it comes to accessibility to get to the venue to play a sport). "

There are **235 clubs** in Paris that welcome people with disabilities and **40 new sections** have been created over three years.



## "Move and share": developing sports activities in health and social care facilities



"Bouge et partage" (Move and share) offers activities that combine sport and culture for people with disabilities, regardless of their disability, for their carers, and for the less independent elderly.

The project was created with cultural and sporting associations and several health and social care facilities that partner with the City of Paris Department of Solidarity. Its aim is to make sport and culture a tool for inclusion and equality, but also a vector for health and well-being. It was initiated as part of the Olympic and Paralympic Games legacy plan.

The 19th and 14th districts of Paris are already benefiting from the scheme, with tennis for beginners, introductory dance and adapted games.

Beyond the sporting aspect, the aim is also to create a bond and give participants more confidence. Building on its success and with a view to prolonging the action and extending it to other types of disability, a third "Move and Share" trial has been underway in the 17th district of Paris since April 2024 and there is a plan to open a new facility in the 10th district.

**For the Games, every moment counts to ensure an unforgettable experience in Paris that is accessible to all.**

**More than 50% of pedestrian crossings have audible signals**



The perspective of the legacy of Olympic and Paralympic Games in terms of accessibility has made it possible to expand the policy of audible signals at pedestrian crossings. To date, more than half the pedestrian crossings in Paris are equipped with audible modules to allow blind and partially sighted people to know when it is safe to cross the road. The module interprets the light signals for pedestrians.

**1 790 audio modules** will have been fitted at **228 junctions** as part of this campaign, for a total cost of **€3,6 million**.

These audio modules are triggered using a universal remote control. This remote control is distributed free of charge to any Parisian who requests it, [via the City of Paris website](#), by letter or in person. An agreement has been signed with the non-profit organisation Valentin Haüy to make this initiative open to as many people as possible.

Valentin Haüy has given out 200 remote controls to visually-impaired Parisians and 300 remote controls were distributed via events organised at district town halls.

Finally, during the Olympic and Paralympic Games, remote controls will be available to tourists through the Paris Tourism Office (Paris Je t'Aime) and are also available at several strategic distribution points: the two Paris Je t'Aime sites: SPORT 24 at the Eiffel Tower and Gare du Nord; the two airports, Disneyland and Galeries Lafayette; Gare de l'Est, Gare de Lyon and Gare Montparnasse.

The messages issued by the audio modules will include a message in English in zones close to the Olympic venues and certain popular tourist areas, including Paris City Hall.

**Testimonial from Philippe, who can activate the audio units at road crossings, self-cleaning public toilets, administrative buildings and metro station entrances when he is travelling around the centre of Paris.**

"Previously, there was no remote control at all so it was nowhere near as simple; it gives us extra help when we get to a junction and it makes it easier to locate parallel or perpendicular streets [...] It really helps me get around certain neighbourhoods on a daily basis, especially places that I don't know that well. It also helps us know when to cross the street."



#### **Paris Je t'Aime - Tourist Office**

Paris Tourist Office offers [100% accessible maps](#) that provide information on a wide range of activities and services whilst taking into account the level of accessibility depending on a person's handicap.

## Accessibility of Parisian services and facilities: a long-standing investment by the City of Paris to facilitate everyday independence and build the city of tomorrow

Many municipal public facilities and services are now accessible in every Paris district and in every sector

An imperative for the City of Paris: meeting the deadline set by the law according to its planned accessibility programme (Ad'AP)



Paris will be ready and will meet its commitment and obligations under the planned accessibility programme, the Ad'AP. **As such, 91% of municipal institutions will be accessible as of 2025.**

The Ad'AP agendas are an extension of the obligations imposed by the French law of 2005. They allow public and private organisations who were not ready for the initial 10-year deadline to have an extended deadline. With different adaptations, such as ramps, tactile guide paths and magnetic loops, backed-up by city employees on site that have had specific training to provide full and calm assistance to people with disabilities.

## Playgrounds for everyone



The City of Paris is continuing its adaptation of inclusive playgrounds to make them accessible to all children. Beyond facilitating access by having no steps at the entrance, the apparatus is adapted to different types of disabilities.

An additional twenty inclusive playgrounds are planned in 2024, particularly in the 11th, 18th and 19th districts. To ensure that these playgrounds are properly deployed, work will be carried out on consolidating the on-site signage and preparing an interactive map of the playgrounds on [paris.fr](https://paris.fr). This map will specify the level of accessibility and offer more details about playgrounds with a higher level of accessibility (photographs of the facilities, the disabilities covered, etc.).

## Libraries adapted to everyone's needs



*Canopée la fontaine Multimedia Library*

To provide a range of library services adapted to all needs, whatever the age or situation of the public, the City of Paris has set up:

- **5 deaf divisions** with libraries that provide French sign language training for hearing employees and employ deaf staff.
- **2 'read differently' divisions** for the visually impaired (audio books, large print and tactile (braille) books, specific equipment (including Daisy readers), customised reception and adapted services, and adapted cultural events).
- **17 libraries** that cater for groups with psychological and/or mental disabilities.
- **Collections and services:** in braille (532); French sign language adaptations (206); large print books (13,797); audio books for adults (40,836); Daisy books and periodicals (1,469).
- **a digital library** via the libraries portal, with: audio books, digital books (novels, comics) that can be enlarged to very large script, and digital resources.
- **the Port'âge service**, provided by young people in civic service, organised by 22 libraries that visit people who have difficulties in taking out books (the elderly, people with disabilities, etc.).

**The new James Baldwin multimedia library, an accessible architectural, cultural and social project**



The James Baldwin multimedia library is a project to transform two former Jean Quarré High School buildings into a multimedia library and a place with resources for refugees. Scheduled to open in the second half of 2024, this project is already marking itself out as a reference for ecological and responsible architecture that champions accessibility in a resilient city. It is the brainchild of Philippe Madec, a pioneer in environmentally responsible architecture.

The James Baldwin multimedia library, which will be the first in the 19th district, will offer 2,500 m<sup>2</sup> of culture in 5,000 m<sup>2</sup> of green spaces. With a multi-purpose room, a café, co-working spaces and an urban farm, it will make a connection with the Maison des Réfugiés: a 1,000 m<sup>2</sup> area of resources for refugees, which also offers innovative assistance ranging from French language learning to professional training and social initiatives to facilitate integration.

The inauguration of the library will see the creation of the fifth Deaf division of the City of Paris's multimedia library network.

The James Baldwin multimedia library is also accessible to people with reduced mobility, people who are hard of hearing or visually impaired, people with mental disabilities, and offers assistance in sign language.

**Paris trains in serving and communicating with everybody, regardless of their disabilities**



**Spotlight on the Saint-Eloi municipal Book and Record library, 23 rue Colonel Rozanoff, in the enhanced accessibility neighbourhood in the 12th district**

"What seems particularly important to me is to change how people see disability, and to get people to meet each other. As such, in our library's "Deaf Division", we can serve the public in French sign language, with a mixed team of deaf and hearing librarians who use sign language. Our day-to-day work is about making everybody more aware. Through the service we provide but also through cultural activities that we try to make as accessible as possible, particularly for deaf people." explains Laurence Gautier, the Library Manager.



### **Deploying services from the Departmental Centre for Disabled People (Maison Départementale des Personnes Handicapées – MDPH) in the districts to make administrative procedures more accessible**

To help make public services more accessible to Parisians and improve access to rights for people with disabilities as part of the fifteen-minute city, five local offices of the MDPH have been deployed in the 13th, 15th, 18th and 20th districts.

This trial of deploying offices from the MDPH into the districts has already provided several findings:

- The local offices are complementary to the MDPH offices on rue de la Victoire;
- The first users say that they are satisfied by this local service;
- This proximity encourages the creation of partnerships.

### **Theatres, museums, libraries and multimedia libraries: the accessible cultural offering in Paris is expanding throughout the city.**

The City of Paris is committed to facilitating physical access to cultural venues for all audiences. The aim is to ensure access to the plentiful cultural offering in Paris for all citizens and avoid any form of exclusion. An increasing number of cultural venues are committed to accessibility. Below is an overview of the theatres and museums with an accessible cultural offering:

**Mouffetard – Centre national de la Marionnette** (National Puppet Centre – 5th district) offers:

- Adapted shows in French sign language,
- Amateur practical artistic workshops where deaf and hearing people engage together in sign singing, sign dance or any other artistic form specific to deaf culture,
- Workshops and outings for pupils from the National Institute of Young Deaf People (5th district) and Collège Morvan (9th district),
- Signing cafes that are open to all comers for practicing French sign language.

**Théâtre Silvia Monfort** (15th district) offers:

- Advice about shows and customised seating
- Accessible shows in French sign language or with captions.
- Shows with audio description and tactile visits to the stage before shows.

### **Paris Disability Month (Mois parisien du Handicap), an annual event that promotes accessibility and disability awareness**

Paris Disability Month, which celebrates its 15th edition in 2024, is a highlight of the year that gives a voice to the people concerned and brings together stakeholders from the disabilities sector. During this period, non-profit, sporting and cultural organisations, district mayors and the City of Paris work to schedule a month of festivities that offer essential information, discussions and a time for sharing around disability and accessibility. Cultural and parasports events, shows, exhibitions, awareness-raising forums and conferences are held throughout the city during Paris Disability Month.





### Enhancing the autonomy of Parisians through the digital accessibility of websites and online services, and new innovations

The City of Paris is working to make all the information that it distributes accessible. This is the aim, for instance, of "Easy to read and understand" content designed to make texts accessible to people who have difficulty understanding: people who are intellectually impaired, people who are not native French speakers, children or the elderly.

The City of Paris is also supporting the development of innovative solutions for enhanced accessibility in all the districts of Paris. For example, the StreetNav application offers all Parisians with disabilities indoor and outdoor guidance around the routes and facilities in enhanced accessibility neighbourhoods. The guidance is enhanced by a bracelet that vibrates along the route to give directions for people with a visual impairment.

Internal audits are also regularly conducted to check that the digital tools offered by the City of Paris meet the legal accessibility requirements.

## Accessibility is a cross-cutting guideline for all Parisian public policies to ensure that everyone can access their rights independently

Accessibility is a central aspect of every major project of the mayoral term to enhance the autonomy and citizenship of all Parisians

Each of these projects, from Porte de la Chapelle to the School Streets initiative, is an opportunity to prevent, reduce and even eradicate vulnerabilities. A number of public redevelopment projects have included accessibility as one of their main goals.



*Théâtre de la Ville*

For example, the **Théâtre de la Ville** (4th district) - renamed the Sarah-Bernhardt Theatre – underwent seven years' of renovations. Whilst these works have helped to enhance the heritage and modernise the venue, the aim was also to bring the building into line with current accessibility standards. The café, the entrance hall, the great hall and the dome are now accessible via a lift for people with reduced mobility, the great hall has 20 spaces for people with reduced mobility and three dressing rooms are accessible for artists in wheelchairs.

[More information on paris.fr](https://www.paris.fr)



The redevelopment of **Porte de la Chapelle** (18th district) was completed just before the summer and the Paris Olympics. This major route through the district has been transformed into a vast promenade with bike lanes, less space for cars, more greenery, and a new public lighting system. The aim is for this space to be aligned with what Paris aspires to be: a greener, less polluted space that is more welcoming and accessible to everyone.

[More information on paris.fr](https://www.paris.fr)



**Place de la Nation** (11th district), a symbolic crossroads, which opens onto the historic Cours de Vincennes road and a vast green area at the heart of Eastern Paris, has also undergone works to prioritise green spaces and allow access for everyone, for example by widening the pedestrian crossings and removing obstacles.

[More information on paris.fr](https://www.paris.fr)

Paris is working with its partners to ensure that all children enjoy their right to education



Schools, as fundamental centres of socialisation, are of major importance: they allow for social and societal inclusion. Promoting and facilitating access to education for all children and particularly those with disabilities is therefore a means of fighting against exclusion, isolation and discrimination.

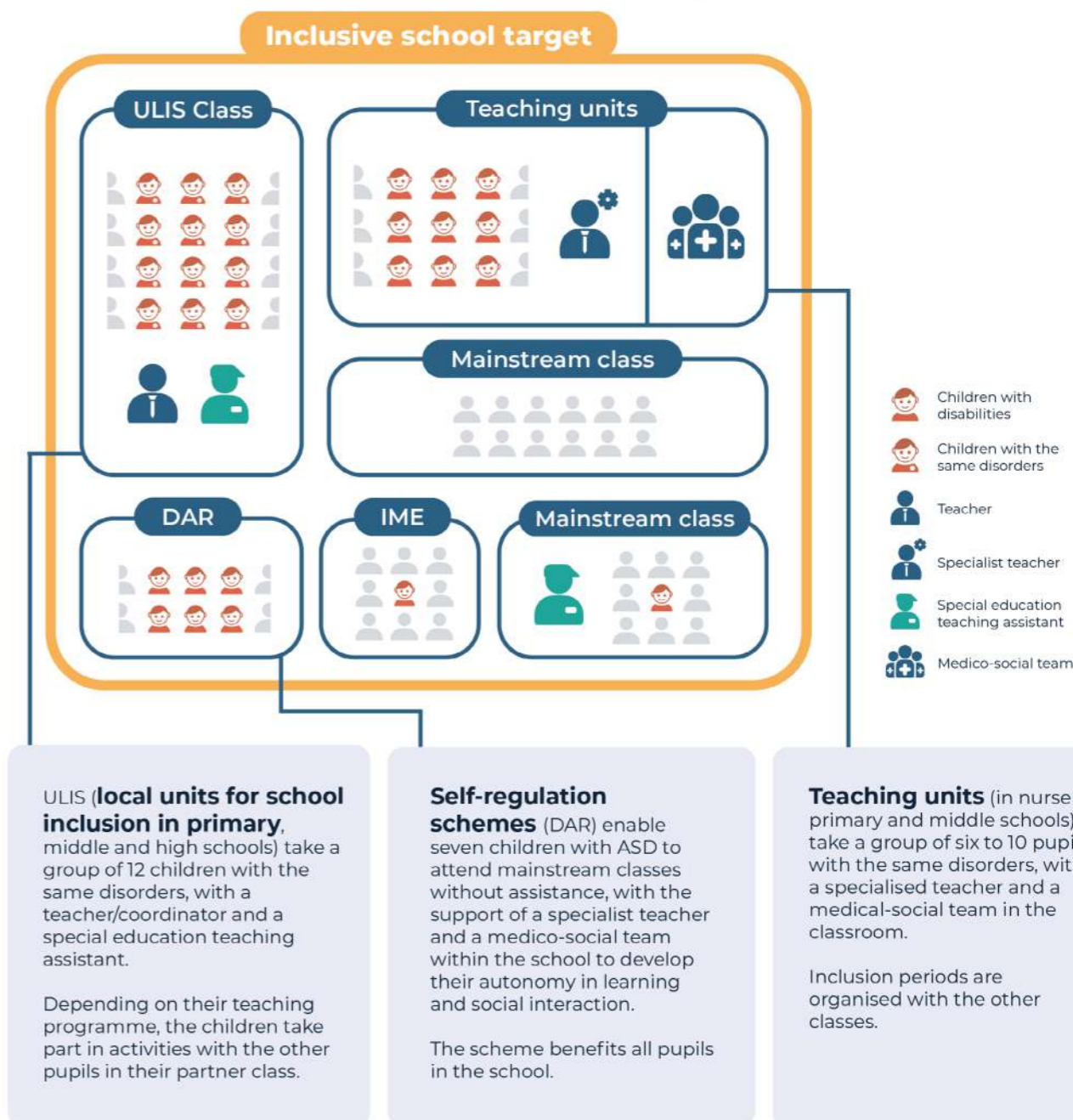
This is one of the aims of the school inclusion schemes deployed across the City.

Working with the Regional Health Authority for the Paris area, Ministry of National Education and the Paris Departmental Centre for Disabled People, the City of Paris will open 10 new school inclusion schemes when schools reopen after the summer in 2024. There will be five outsourced teaching units in primary schools and four in middle schools. There is also a plan to create an Outsourced services and expertise division (Pôle de Compétences et de Prestations Externalisées – PCPE).

In this way, the city will have 39 inclusive school schemes in primary and middle schools (30 of which are already in place and 9 more are planned for September 2024), plus three classes for the teaching deaf young people division (bilingual lessons in French sign language):

- one infant class;
- one primary class;
- one middle school class.

## SCHOOLING FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES: WHAT ARE THE SCHEMES AVAILABLE?



### ? WHAT IS THE ROLE OF A SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHING ASSISTANT?

A special education teaching assistant enables pupils to gain and build their autonomy in learning and life at school. Their tasks are set out on each pupil's MDPH notification:

- Support in carrying out everyday tasks
- Learning support in consultation with the teacher
- Help with socialisation

There are three types of assistance: group (ULIS and sometimes teaching units), individual (with one pupil), and shared (with several pupils).

## Enhancing children's right to leisure activities and the right to respite care for families



The City of Paris has a significant offering of adapted holidays with affordable prices to allow as many children as possible to get away. These breaks are available to people of all ages (adults, young people and children) and all types of disability (physical, mental, psychological, autism, multiple disabilities, etc.).

Adapted holidays are an offering of holidays with other children for those who are often obliged to spend their holidays at home and also provide an opportunity for care-giving parents to enjoy a rare break.

Many holidays in France and abroad are available depending on household conditions and resources, with a balance to be paid of €0 for the poorest families.

Thanks to the City, a family can save **up to €1,300** on an adapted holiday for their child. Customised holidays allow **800 children** to get away.

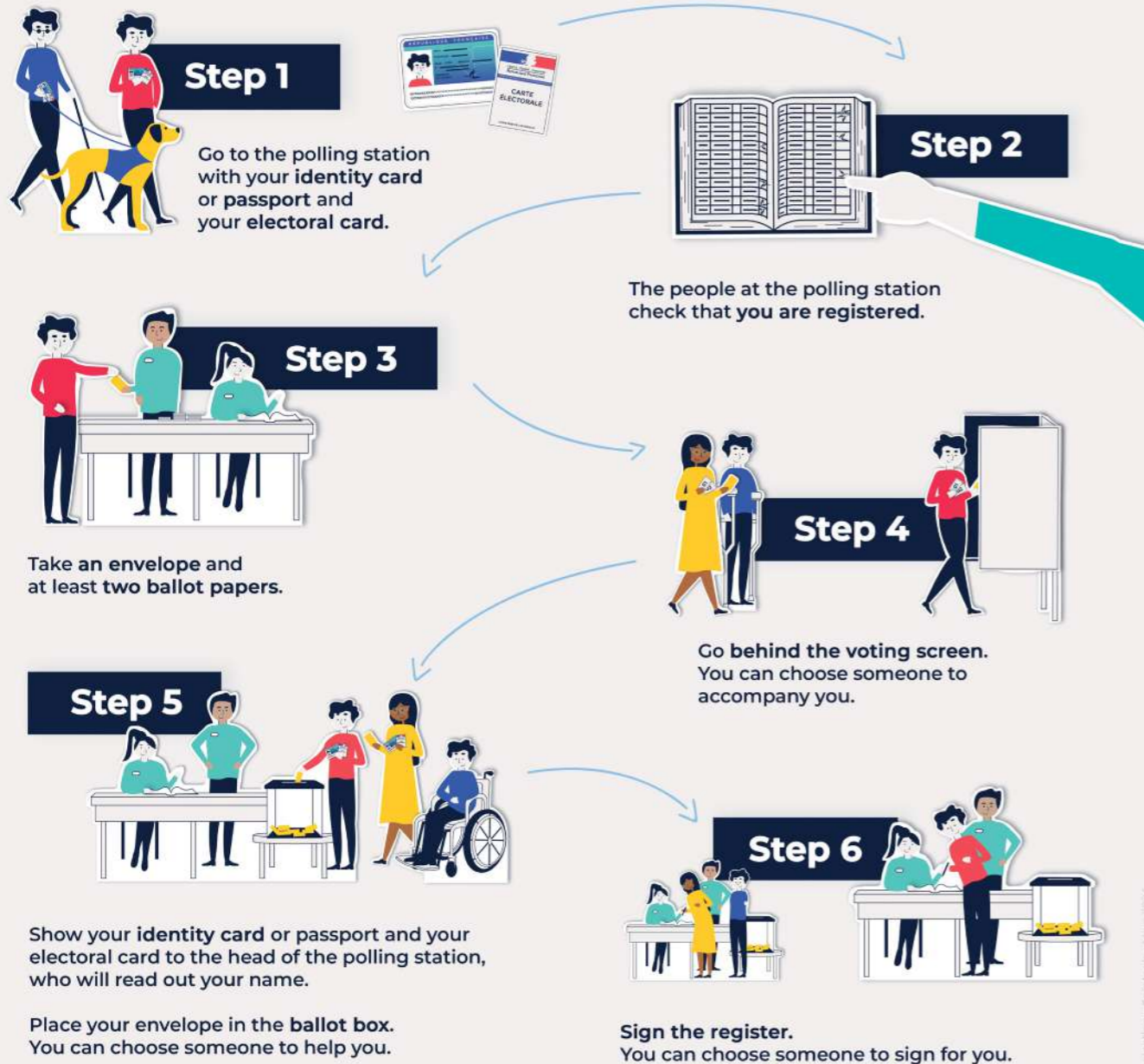
## To support and continue its accessibility drive over the long term, Paris is opening a universal design and accessibility residence in the 20th district town hall

The Accessibility Residence set up in the 20th district town hall is at the cutting edge of the 100% accessible city project, which allows everyone to get around independently. Initiated by the 20th district council and supported by Makesense, this project is centred on three main areas: improving public services, housing and citizenship.

This space, which was entirely developed through the circular economy, demonstrates that it is possible to combine environmental and social responsibility. This entirely accessible residence highlights the existing solutions for catering to people on an everyday basis. It is also a place for inventing the City of the future that hosts community organisations or social enterprises throughout the year. These non-profit organisations and campaigners will develop innovative solutions to the challenges of inclusion in cities.

Project leaders are given guidance and premises and can experiment solutions together in the district. This is the case for N'Vibe in partnership with StreetNav. These two project leaders have developed a guidance application designed with and for people with disabilities. Its profile selection module makes it possible to get safe guidance, whatever your needs. The GPS system works indoors and outdoors. It is complimented by a vibrating bracelet, which guides blind and partially sighted people without monopolising their hearing.

# Voting, step by step



**Voting, a right for all!**

DAGEE Mission Communication - Spidank - Juin 2014

## The Paris elections accessibility solution is a national benchmark

Access to voting is a constitutional right that is guaranteed to all. For this reason, in 2018 the City of Paris created a working group to improve the voting conditions for people with disabilities.

The City of Paris won a Territoria Award for this project in December 2019 (Citizenship Category). The system was the result of six months' work carried out in close collaboration with the Paris Departmental Council for Citizenship and Autonomy (CDCA), enriched by the accounts of people with intellectual disabilities.

An accessible communication campaign is run in the lead up to every election to inform citizens about the election and voting procedures, whatever their needs. The City of Paris also supports associations that inform people with intellectual disabilities about how to vote.

## **CONTACT**

City of Paris Press Office

[presse@paris.fr](mailto:presse@paris.fr)

+33 1 42 76 49 61

[www.paris.fr/accessible](http://www.paris.fr/accessible)