

THE PERKS OF HAVING A BUSINESS WITH

## FLAT WALKING SURFACES

Having flat walking spaces allows more Ithaca citizens to access your space and enjoy the resources you have to offer. Flat walking surfaces are a more family and mobility-friendly option. Plus, 92% of consumers are more likely to support a business that is physically and digitally accessible to all.



### CREATE A MULTI-GENERATIONAL SPACE

Flat walking surfaces and ramps allow people who use wheelchairs, strollers, and other mobility aids to have easier access to the space.



### INCREASE YOUR AUDIENCE

Easier mobility with flat walking surfaces will help those with visual, autoimmune, and mobility impairments navigate your space.



### GIVE EVERYONE A SHOT AT SUCCESS

By removing barriers in the physical environment, you open your customer and employee base to those with varying mobility needs.

Slippery, uneven surfaces and a lack of universally accessible walkways create dangerous conditions that can lead to serious injuries. The fear of falling can lead to anxiety and a less active lifestyle. It is important that all public settings maintain flat, accessible surfaces to ensure a safe environment for everyone.

Addressing these issues in our community will help create a world where everyone feels they belong.

- Bob Brazill, Racker

### THINGS TO NOTE

- Accessible surfaces must be stable, firm and slip-resistant
- Rough surfaces (like gravel) can make it difficult to navigate with mobility aids
- Water fountains, coat hooks, low wall sconces and doorknobs, small door offsets, and crowded furniture can also inhibit mobility
- Having a clear floor space allows all customers to move through the space easily without tripping hazards
- Grate openings should be smaller than 1/2" in any direction

### EASY ALTERATIONS

- Replace gravel or cobblestone with materials such as asphalt, tile, or wood
- Add a ramp to areas with stairs, even if there are only a few
- Cover grate openings or other gaps to ensure mobility aids do not get stuck
- Sandwich boards, freestanding movable signs, merchandise racks, etc. should be avoided if possible or placed outside the path of travel

Find or add listings with flat walking surfaces at <https://ithaca.community> [info@ithaca.community](mailto:info@ithaca.community)