


Ad



Indochino Men's Custom Seaham Palm Print Green Shirt | Cotton/Linen

\$50 \$89

Liven up your wardrobe with funky leaf prints. A contemporary upgrade to the...

Indochino

Visit Site

BATON ROUGE

NEW ORLEANS

ACADIANA

LAKE CHARLES

GAMBIT

ADORE

Hi, Jessica!

MY ACCOUNT

VIEW E-EDITION

NEWSLETTERS

WEATHER

CORONAVIRUS

NEWS

SPORTS

SPORTS BETTING

ENTERTAINMENT/LIFE

OPINIONS

LEGALS

HOMES

OBITUARIES

JOBS

CALENDAR

STORE

88°

Q


AVAILABLE NOW - FREE SHIPPING

TYRANN MATHIEU

SAINTS JERSEY

Fanatics

SHOP NOW



New Orleans faces lawsuit over inaccessible bus stops

Wilborn P. Nobles III, NOLA.com | The Times-Picayune PUBLISHED MAR 29, 2016 AT 4:04 AM | UPDATED JUL 19, 2019 AT 10:34 AM

Three New Orleans residents sued the city Monday (March 28) over allegations that its "bus system is inaccessible to persons with" mobility-related disabilities. The lawsuit comes after the group received an internal review of its bus stops that said roughly 94 percent of all bus stops in New Orleans are not compliant with the Americans With Disabilities Act.


Andrew Bizer, a local lawyer from The Bizer Law Firm, said the city has done nothing to improve its non-accessible bus stops and has even changed many bus stops in a non-compliant manner.

"We think it's very important for the public safety of disabled folks," Bizer said by phone. "It's difficult enough when you're disabled trying to go down sidewalks in New Orleans, it's another thing to try to use public transportation and have such problems."

The ADA was signed into law in 1990 by President George H.W. Bush as civil rights legislation designed to prohibit disability discrimination, meant to guarantee people with disabilities the same opportunities as able-bodied citizens. The lawsuit, filed in the Eastern District Court of New Orleans, is against the city, the New Orleans [Regional Transit Authority](#) and Transdev Services, Inc., RTA's private manager. Although the city's website maintains that "the City is adamant about" the ADA law, Bizer said undisclosed city documents suggest otherwise.

After filing a Freedom of Information Act request, Bizer said they received a previously undisclosed 2014 RTA survey, in which the agency reviewed 2,218 of its bus stops. The RTA determined that only 5.7 percent, or 126, of its bus stops were ADA compliant. Among more than 94 percent of its non-compliant bus stops, 336 of them had a compliant transit stop area, but required sidewalk,

FOLLOW US



SHOP NOW

GNC

curb ramp construction, or repair to be fully compliant, according to the survey.

The combined project cost for transit stop improvements range from about \$10.7 million to \$12.6 million in 2016, according to the study. Bizer said they sent a follow-up request to learn what authorities have done to implement the report's suggestions, but he said they failed to respond to them.

Top stories in New Orleans in your inbox

Twice daily we'll send you the day's biggest headlines. Sign up today.

Enter your e-mail address.

This site is protected by reCAPTCHA and the Google [Privacy Policy](#) and [Terms of Service](#) apply.

Sign Up

The plaintiffs include Francis Falls, Mitchell Miraglia, and Thad Tatum, three men who use wheelchairs.

Each complained about a lack of accessible routes to bus stops, inadequate or non-existent wheelchair landing pads at bus stops, bus benches that are not on an accessible route, and covered bus bench pavilions that are not located on an accessible routes. They also said they faced difficulty entering or getting off buses due to the lack of level landing pads at bus stops. The lack of pads has put the men at risk of tipping out of their wheelchair when try to get on or off the bus, the lawsuit said.

Bizer said he hopes the lawsuit will result in dropping the city's 94 percent ADA non-compliant bus stop rate to zero.

"These are safety issues for folks who can use all the help they can get," he said.

Messages left with the RTA, Transdev and the city government were not returned Monday.

Read the RTA's [full internal review](#) of its bus stops.



This Day in History
Sponsored by Connatix

SHOPPING

PURCHASES MADE VIA LINKS ON OUR SITE MAY EARN US AN AFFILIATE COMMISSION

Save 28% on this massaging footrest for the ultimate stress relief




Here's a top performing Apple computer for a price that will blow your mind



Get Cyber Monday savings on this 4-star-reviewed data back up system








Palace Blazing Tee Shirt OG 2012 Blazers
Portland

\$180

 View comments

SECTIONS

-
- News
- Opinion
- Sports
- Entertainment/Life
- Newsletters
- Games

SERVICES

- Classifieds
- Search
- Subscribe | Groups
- Digital Advertising
- Submission Forms
- Help/Contact Us
- RSS Feeds
- Media Kit
- eEdition
- Careers
- Teacher's Link
- Reviewing the Record

OUR SITES

- Obituaries
- Jobs
- Celebrations
- NIE
- Classifieds
- Homes
- Pets
- Archives
- Store

CONTACT INFORMATION

nola.com
840 St. Charles Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70130
Phone: 504-529-0522

News Tips:
newstips@theadvocate.com

Other questions:
subscriberservices@theadvocate.com

Need help?

- Report a delivery issue
- Create a temporary stop
- Sign up for recurring payments
- Pay your bill
- Update your billing info

