

CASE STUDY



CITY OF WHITTIER, CALIFORNIA

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WHITTIER CITY HALL UTILIZES
THE HYDRATIONSTATION™
TO STAY ADA COMPLIANT.



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Whittier City Hall
Whittier, California

BACKGROUND

The City of Whittier is located 12 miles south-east of Los Angeles, California. Established in 1898, Whittier is a city rich with respect and consideration of the needs of all its citizens. Focusing on integrity, dignity and teamwork, the city continually strives to provide superior operational and organizational services to the community. As with many cities and counties in California, Whittier has chosen to balance community needs with environmentally sustainable solutions.

OBJECTIVE

Located in downtown, the Whittier City Hall building was in serious need of retrofitting. After 60 years of use, a few parts of the building needed to be updated to meet the growing needs of the community and the rules of American Disabilities Act (ADA). Incorporated in the retrofit was a downstairs drinking fountain located near the employee lunch room. With a goal of staying "green" as well as being ADA compliant, Whittier facility staff members found numerous challenges with many of the water delivery system options. In order for the dispenser to be ADA compliant, it needed to have an obstruction-free knee and floor space to accommodate a single wheelchair and it needed to protrude from the wall no more than 4 inches. It was crucial to the city to maintain their new green standard but also adhere to the strict ADA regulations.

SOLUTION

"After facilities staff members saw a HydrationStation at a trade show, the choice was obvious and posed no installation or ADA challenges," states Bryan Petroff, Facility Maintenance Supervisor for the City of Whittier. The facility maintenance staff built a frame for the unit into a pre-existing alcove in a cement wall. This allowed the unit to be almost flush against the original wall; in addition, the wall at the bottom of the HydrationStation was left open to allow complete wheelchair access. Since the HydrationStation provides users with a touch-free, hygienic way to attain a refreshing water refill for their glasses and/or re-usable water bottles, the product significantly decreased one-use plastic bottle waste, further assisting Whittier in their sustainability efforts.

RESULTS

"I like the unit a lot," says Petroff, "It solved my problem of becoming ADA compliant!" The HydrationStation hooks up to the municipal water line and provides users with filtered water at a rate of .8 gallons per minute and each filter lasts approximately 6 months or 2,500 gallons. To further promote the unit, Whittier released information about the unit in a news letter to staff. Petroff claims the HydrationStation "is a good idea," staff enjoy and appreciate the unit because they "understand the thought behind it!"

ABOUT HAWS

Haws Corporation designs, manufactures and distributes drinking fountains and emergency equipment that are ranked #1 in quality by specifiers in both product categories.

