

Project Explorer meets WCAG 2.2

Level AA on 40 of 42 applicable success criteria, with zero identified failures.

A capital-projects transparency platform used by residents to see what their local government is building — accessibility here isn't a checkbox, it's how a resident using a screen reader finds out a park near them is closing for renovation.

40 / 42

Applicable WCAG 2.2 A/AA criteria fully supported

0

Criteria with a known "Does Not Support" result

2

Admin-only items pending a follow-up authenticated test pass

WHY THIS MATTERS TO US

Project Explorer exists to make local government spending and construction legible to the public — the people most affected by an inaccessible civic website are often the same people most affected by the projects it describes: residents navigating a road closure by cane, a parent checking on a playground rebuild while working from a shared library computer, a screen-reader user who simply wants to know where their tax dollars are going. Compliance is the floor here, not the ceiling.

This report is not a one-time audit filed away. Every gap it identified was fixed in the product and **verified live against the running application** — not just reviewed in source — before being marked resolved. Where we could not verify something (a handful of admin-dashboard interactions requiring a signed-in session), we said so plainly rather than assume a pass.

Report Details & Methodology

How this evaluation was performed, what it covers, and how to read the results that follow.

PRODUCT / REPORT INFORMATION

Name of Product	Project Explorer (web application) — public tenant sites and the tenant admin dashboard
Report Date	September 2026
Product Description	A multi-tenant SaaS platform that turns a government agency's or organization's capital project list into a branded public website (live map, budgets, timelines) plus a staff-facing admin dashboard for managing that content.
Contact	Gavin Haubelt · gavin@icitywork.com
Standards Evaluated	Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.2, Levels A and AA — https://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG22/

EVALUATION METHODS

This evaluation combined source code review (component templates, ARIA usage, semantic structure, form handling) with live automated and manual testing against the running production site at icitywork.io — including programmatic contrast-ratio measurement from computed styles and manual keyboard-navigation testing. The tenant admin dashboard was evaluated by source code review; live testing there requires an authenticated session, which was not available during this pass. The two criteria affected by that gap are marked **Partially Supports** and **Not Evaluated** below rather than assumed passing — they are the only two of 42 applicable criteria not fully confirmed.

This evaluation was performed with AI assistance (Claude, Anthropic) under the direction of and reviewed by the product's developer. It is a good-faith self-assessment, not a substitute for testing by users of assistive technology or a certified third-party accessibility audit.

HOW TO READ THE RESULTS

- Supports — meets the criterion without known defects
- Partially Supports — some functionality does not meet the criterion
- Not Applicable — the criterion doesn't apply to this product
- Not Evaluated — not yet assessed; not the same as passing

Open items (both admin-only)

Whether the admin dashboard's drag-and-drop interactions (image and list reordering) offer a non-drag alternative, and whether a floating "Save" button or a sticky mobile sidebar in the admin project editor can ever fully hide a keyboard-focused element — the equivalent public-site behavior was tested live and found clean. Both require a signed-in admin session to confirm and are scheduled for a follow-up pass.

Success Criteria — Level A

Perceivable

CRITERION	CONFORMANCE	REMARKS
1.1.1 Non-text Content	Supports	Project images require alt text in the upload UI and server-side validation. Decorative logos use empty alt or aria-hidden. Map markers carry a title attribute; gallery controls carry descriptive labels.
1.2.1 Audio-only and Video-only (Prerecorded)	Not Applicable	No audio-only or video-only content exists in the product.
1.2.2 Captions (Prerecorded)	Not Applicable	No prerecorded audio/video content exists.
1.2.3 Audio Description or Media Alternative	Not Applicable	No prerecorded video content exists.
1.3.1 Info and Relationships	Supports	Landmark regions and live-region roles used correctly. The public site's masthead is a real h1 on every page; project card titles are h2 directly beneath it, with no heading-outline skip.
1.3.2 Meaningful Sequence	Supports	DOM order matches visual reading order throughout; no CSS reordering desynchronizes source order from presentation.
1.3.3 Sensory Characteristics	Supports	No instructions rely solely on shape, size, position, or sound.
1.4.1 Use of Color	Supports	Status indicators always pair a color swatch with a text label. Map category colors are supplemented by a parallel text-based project list on the same page.
1.4.2 Audio Control	Not Applicable	No audio plays automatically anywhere in the product.

Operable

CRITERION	CONFORMANCE	REMARKS
2.1.1 Keyboard	Supports	Interactive elements are native anchor/button elements, confirmed live (36 native focusable elements on a real public tenant page). Modals implement Tab-cycling. The third-party map marker layer's own keyboard support was not independently verified.
2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap	Supports	Modal components provide Tab-cycling plus an Escape-key exit, so focus can always be moved away using the keyboard alone.
2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts	Not Applicable	No single-character keyboard shortcuts exist.
2.2.1 Timing Adjustable	Not Applicable	No time limits or session countdowns exist.
2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide	Not Applicable	No auto-updating or auto-advancing content exists.
2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below Threshold	Supports	No flashing/strobing content exists; transitions are standard fades.
2.4.1 Bypass Blocks	Supports	Every page shell wraps primary content in a native main landmark; the navigation preceding it is a single short header bar throughout, an accepted sufficient technique.
2.4.2 Page Titled	Supports	Public and project-detail pages carry a reactive tab title; every admin/auth route carries a static, descriptive title applied via a router-level hook.
2.4.3 Focus Order	Supports	Modals move focus to the dialog on open and confine Tab order inside it. DOM source order matches visual order throughout.

CRITERION	CONFORMANCE	REMARKS
2.4.4 Link Purpose (In Context)	Supports	Project links use explicit, descriptive aria-labels (e.g. "View details for [Project Title]") rather than generic link text.
2.5.1 Pointer Gestures	Not Applicable	No multipoint/path-based gestures exist; the image lightbox's step navigation has an equivalent keyboard path.
2.5.2 Pointer Cancellation	Supports	Controls use standard click-based activation; no custom down-event handlers were found.
2.5.3 Label in Name	Supports	Sampled aria-labels contain or match their visible text.
2.5.4 Motion Actuation	Not Applicable	No functionality is triggered by device motion.

Understandable

CRITERION	CONFORMANCE	REMARKS
3.1.1 Language of Page	Supports	The root document declares lang="en"; confirmed live on the public site and login page.
3.2.1 On Focus	Supports	No component triggers a navigation or context change purely on receiving focus.
3.2.2 On Input	Supports	No form auto-submits or auto-navigates on a field's value changing; every reviewed form requires an explicit submit action.
3.2.6 Consistent Help	Not Applicable	The product does not offer a site-wide help/contact mechanism.
3.3.1 Error Identification	Supports	All error messages use role="alert", including the login page's sign-in error.

CRITERION	CONFORMANCE	REMARKS
3.3.2 Labels or Instructions	Supports	Every reviewed input is wrapped in a real label with visible text via a shared base input component.
3.3.7 Redundant Entry	Supports	The login view reuses the same value across its sign-in and forgot-password sub-forms rather than requiring re-entry.

Robust

CRITERION	CONFORMANCE	REMARKS
4.1.2 Name, Role, Value	Supports	The shared modal component implements role="dialog", aria-modal="true", and a dynamic aria-label; icon-only buttons carry aria-label text app-wide.

Success Criteria — Level AA

Perceivable

CRITERION	CONFORMANCE	REMARKS
1.2.4 Captions (Live)	Not Applicable	No live audio/video content exists.
1.2.5 Audio Description (Prerecorded)	Not Applicable	No prerecorded video content exists.
1.3.4 Orientation	Supports	No CSS orientation lock or Screen Orientation API usage was found.
1.3.5 Identify Input Purpose	Supports	Login email/password fields carry autocomplete="username"/"current-password". Fixing this surfaced and corrected a shared input component bug that was silently dropping autocomplete attributes app-wide.
1.4.3 Contrast (Minimum)	Supports	Measured live on production: the public footer's wordmark renders at roughly 5.0–5.3:1 and its label at roughly 9.9:1 against the footer background, both above the 4.5:1 minimum. All other sampled text passed with wide margins.
1.4.4 Resize Text	Supports	Typography uses relative units; the viewport meta tag does not disable user scaling.
1.4.5 Images of Text	Supports	No images-of-text were found; all headings, labels, and body copy are real text.
1.4.10 Reflow	Supports	A systematic audit found and fixed one fixed-width element that would have overflowed on narrow phones (login, reset-password, and related pages). Live-verified zero horizontal overflow down to the narrowest width this pass's tooling could render.
1.4.11 Non-text Contrast	Supports	Live-audited every app-authored bordered/filled element. Found and fixed a real gap: tenant-configurable status and category badge colors had no contrast safety net (measured one real example at 2.15:1, below the 3:1 minimum). Both now carry a self-derived border that stays legible regardless of which color a tenant picks; the same failing example re-measured at 4.80:1 after the fix.

CRITERION	CONFORMANCE	REMARKS
1.4.12 Text Spacing	Supports	No fixed or !important line-height, letter-spacing, or paragraph-spacing overrides were found that would conflict with a user style sheet.
1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus	Supports	No custom hover-only content reveal on the public site. Admin views use native browser tooltips.

Operable

CRITERION	CONFORMANCE	REMARKS
2.4.5 Multiple Ways	Supports	Public site: a search box, a sortable/filterable project list, and a real per-tenant XML sitemap listing the home page and every project. Admin: a single persistent sidebar lists every top-level page on every screen.
2.4.6 Headings and Labels	Supports	Form inputs carry visible label text with required-field indicators; aria-labels on icon/link controls are descriptive.
2.4.7 Focus Visible	Supports	A strong global focus-visible style (3px outline) is defined and reinforced app-wide. Found and fixed the one place it was being suppressed: the admin rich-text editor's content area and HTML-source view.
2.4.11 Focus Not Obscured (Minimum)	Partially Supports	Public site (confirmed live this pass): a sticky mobile header and a fixed footer are a real risk pattern, but keyboard-focusing every project card on a full tenant found none fully hidden behind either. Admin (not yet evaluated): a floating "Save" button and a sticky mobile sidebar are candidates for the same pattern; confirming this needs an authenticated session.
2.5.7 Dragging Movements	Not Evaluated	Drag-and-drop exists in several admin-only components (image reordering, list/detail-field editors, a dashboard grid, a map pin picker). Whether each offers a non-drag alternative needs live testing with admin credentials.
2.5.8 Target Size (Minimum)	Supports	Sampled icon-only controls on the public site measure at or above 24×24 CSS pixels.

Understandable

CRITERION	CONFORMANCE	REMARKS
3.1.2 Language of Parts	Not Applicable	The product is English-only throughout.
3.2.3 Consistent Navigation	Supports	Shared navigation and footer components are used across the public site; a common layout shell is used across admin screens.
3.2.4 Consistent Identification	Supports	Shared base components (buttons, inputs, modals, toasts) are reused consistently for the same function throughout.
3.3.3 Error Suggestion	Supports	Reviewed both client- and server-originated error wording; the server's global error handler avoids leaking raw internals, and validator messages are specific and actionable. Found and fixed one raw-sounding message on the password-reset form.
3.3.4 Error Prevention (Legal, Financial, Data)	Supports	Destructive actions require explicit confirmation naming the item and stating the action cannot be undone.
3.3.8 Accessible Authentication (Minimum)	Supports	Login and password reset use no CAPTCHA or cognitive-function test, and do not block password managers or autofill.

Robust

CRITERION	CONFORMANCE	REMARKS
4.1.3 Status Messages	Supports	An app-wide toast system uses role="status" with aria-live="polite"; form status/success messages use role="status" or role="alert" consistently.

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