# Placemarks to the People!

Kaela Parks, Portland Community College – kaela.parks@pcc.edu

Jennifer Gossett, Portland Community College – Jennifer.gossett@pcc.edu

Placemarks to the People is a Word Press plug-in courtesy of PCC Web Developer Gabriel Nagmay. It is a plug-in that allows users to add and edit placemarks on google maps. <https://wordpress.org/plugins/placemarks/>

In our application the placemarks are used to designate the location of accessible building features. Others on our campus have used the system to add placemarks for other purposes, such as for artwork or sustainability features. The placemarks have text based descriptions, can be read by screenreaders, and are keyboard friendly.

Some placemarks link to pages with additional detail. The online maps are complemented by tactile maps printed on demand. We are creating IVEO files, and working with a mobility and orientation specialist to write narrative directions for point to point directions. Maintaining the existing online maps requires consistent attention, but we are pushing beyond our initial offering to develop an app for wayfinding that will pull all this work together.

## Different areas coming together to make it happen

This project is of shared interest to multiple parties, and in truth, there is no way that any one area could have done this project on their own – but together we have made good progress and are committed to doing more.

### Web Team

Web Team developed the interface and serves as the site administrator

* Uploads maps
* Edits mark types
* Makes upgrades

### Access Team

Verifies location of features and adds or edits placemarks

Brings disability experience and accessibility expertise

### Facilities

Generates and updates floor plan images with optimized details

Works with interns from Architecture and Drafting program

### Academics

Encourage students to participate in internships

Faculty member expertise informs project scope and development

## Different Roles…Different Opportunities

The project provides opportunities for different roles to come together around a shared interest.

### Campus Planners

Updates and alternate routes can be shared when construction activity will temporarily impact path of travel or use of spaces.

### Contributors

Placemarks as well as pages can be added or updated and posts can be published or saved as drafts for review prior to publishing.

### Community Members

Users can see floorplans prior to arrival on campus and can provide feedback or corrections via a link on the footer of every page.

## Explore our Maps at [www.pcc.edu/AccessMaps](http://www.pcc.edu/AccessMaps)