

## ADA Kitchen in the J St. Co-Op

**Location:** 234 J St. Davis, California

**Organization/Client:** Solar Community Housing Association (SCHA)  
Ben Pearl and Josh Redman (SCHA Staff) + current residents

### Project Background:



The J Street Co-op is a community of 7-10 residents in the Old East Davis neighborhood. The house has 7 bedrooms and two bathrooms between two stories and ~2,400 square feet, located at the corner of 3<sup>rd</sup> and J streets. The house requires maintenance and updates on a periodic basis. Currently, the J Street Co-op is in need of a kitchen remodel, which residents and SCHA (J St's parent organization, see below) see as a valuable opportunity to make the house more accessible to people of varying physical abilities.

J Street is a member of the Solar Community Housing Association (SCHA), a community-supported 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that owns and operates affordable housing co-ops in Davis. SCHA's board of directors is comprised of members of these co-ops, along with alumni and community members; the Board maintains a majority of tenant-Directors, and thus is considered a cooperative itself (because those who use it, run it). SCHA's ~85 resident members are all either low-income individuals making less than 80% of Area Median Income (AMI), students, or both.

### Project Problem Statement:

The J Street Co-op (owned and operated by SCHA) is in need of a design for a full kitchen remodel. The remodel will include new cabinets and fixtures, accommodate existing appliances, and be designed wherever possible with physical accessibility in mind. Additionally, accessible paths of travel should be considered for the rest of the first floor of the house (including front entry, living room, dining room, and hall bathroom/laundry), along with sustainable design elements such as water capture and reuse.

### Suggested Project Goals and Objectives:

#### 1. Assess Community Needs

- Conduct a study of the needs and interests of current residents
- Interview SCHA Staff to understand parameters for the project, including functional specifications for cabinets and fixtures that will be durable for long-term/group use.
- Perform prior art on ADA kitchens; including appliances, and accessible storage opportunities.
- Consult ADA specialist

#### 2. Produce As-Built Drawings

- Carefully measure and diagram the first floor of the house

#### 3. Create Design Plans

- Produce a floorplan for the new/proposed kitchen and first floor design
- Produce elevations for new kitchen cabinets, fixtures, and appliance locations
- Produce a design for water capture and recycling
- Recommend upgrades to improve connectivity/paths of travel to the rest of the house