

# Lansing Community College Accessibility Initiative

Best Practices in Getting it Right the First Time

Andy George





# First, a question



# Origins of LCC's Accessibility Initiative

- Began with Accessing Higher Ground
- Brought together Accessibility Initiative Committee in the Spring of 2017
- Identified concerns
- Set goals and developed a plan to meet them



# The Goal

Make all courses, services, and processes accessible by the Summer of 2019.



# Accessibility Initiative Committee

- Executive Leadership
- Center for Student Access
- eLearning
- Faculty Senate Leadership
- IT/Web Development Staff
- Human Resources
- Records Management
- Center for Teaching Excellence
- Marketing and Internal Communications
- Media Services

# Understanding Scope

- Developing inventories of digital and physical forms and documents
- Examining our website for potential accessibility issues
- Reviewing internal and student-facing processes



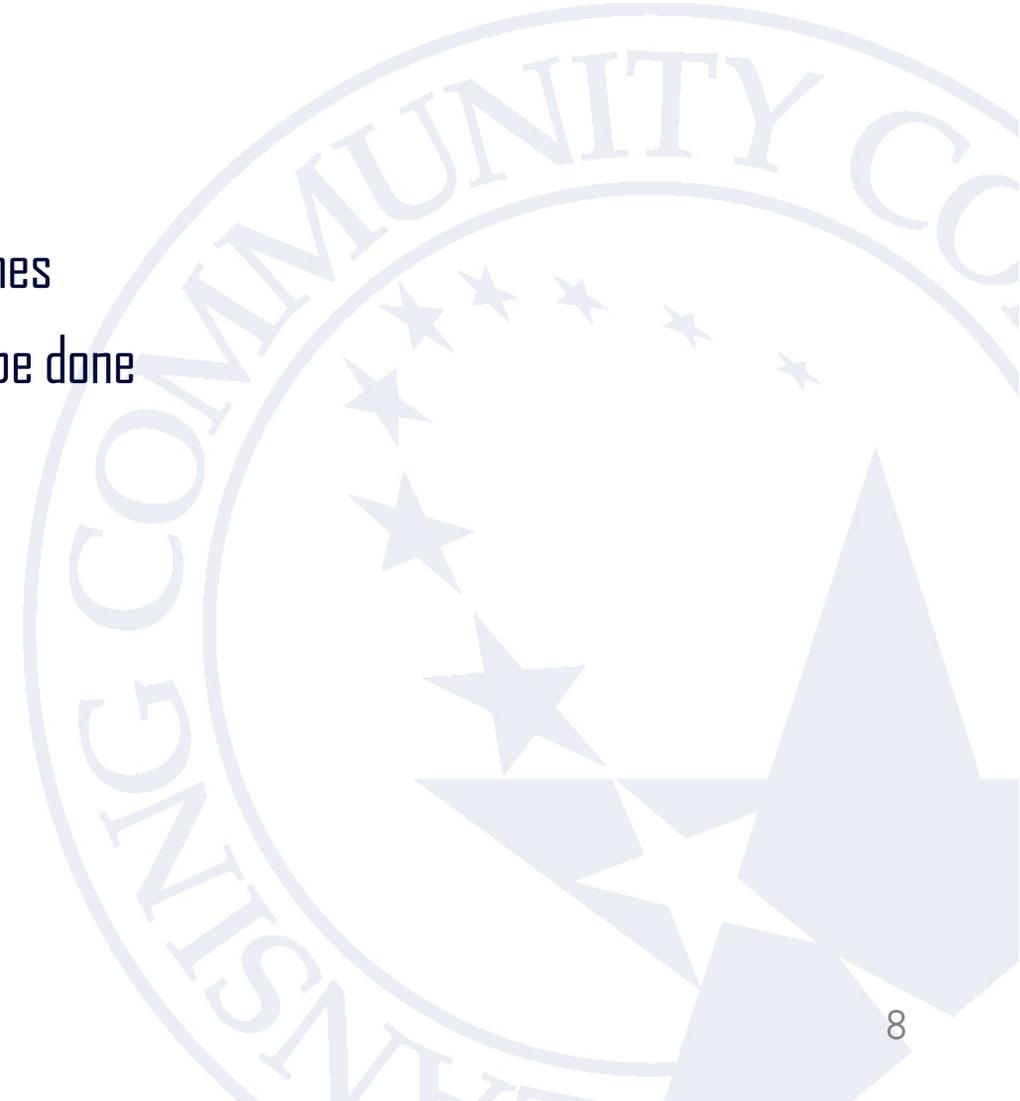
## Challenge: Securing Buy-in

- Executive leadership
- Specialists who can aid in the work
- Champions for accessibility
- Content creators on the ground



# Spreading the Word

- Communicating about the initiative through every avenue available
- Offering training in multiple formats at a variety of locations and times
- Working with departments to help identify the scope of the work to be done

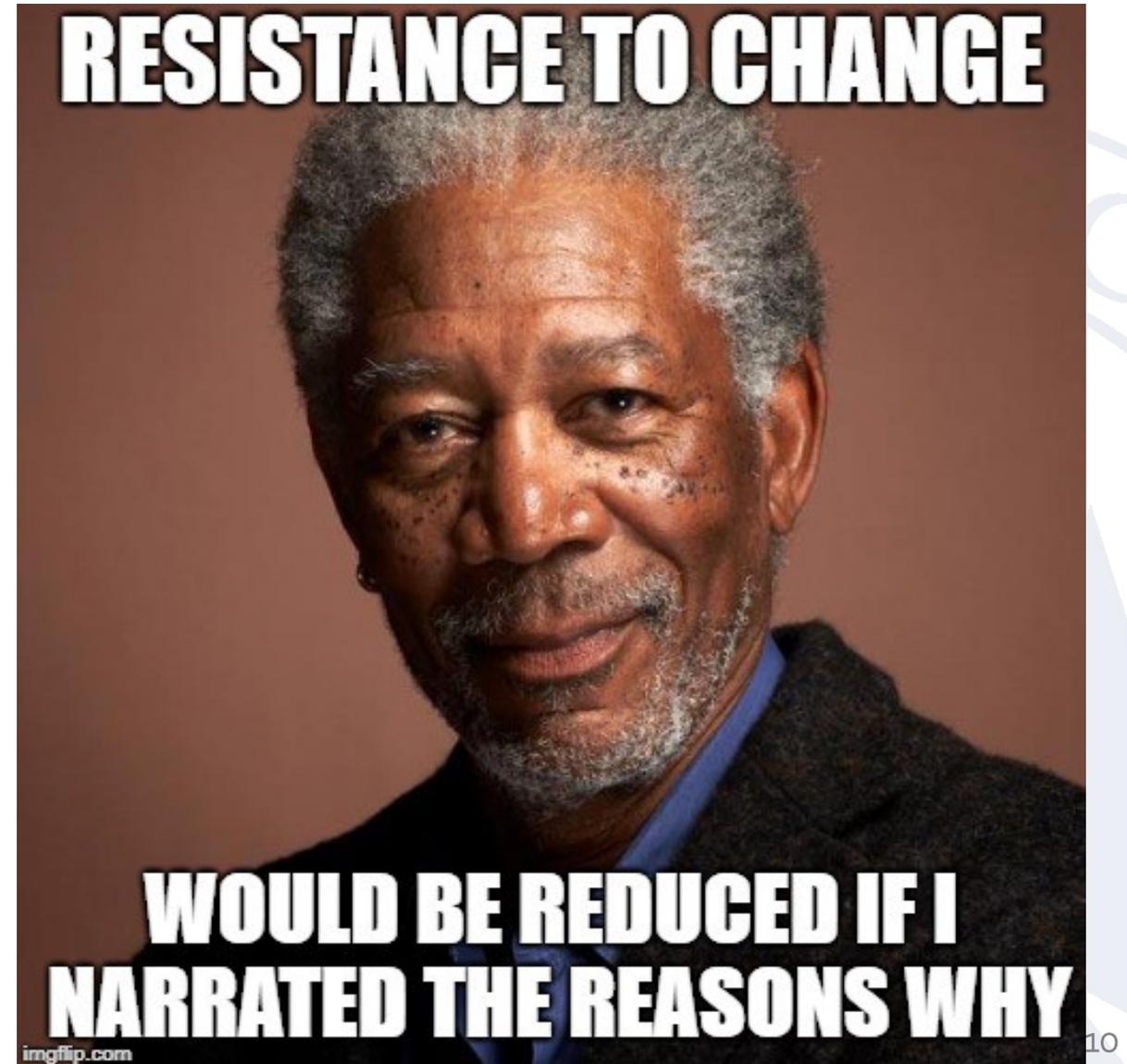


# Some Additional Questions



## Pushback

- Pushback is inevitable when undergoing large-scale change
- Helping others overcome the anxiety that comes with change
  - Listen and be empathetic
  - Help others understand their situation and what needs to be done
  - Provide the resources necessary to doing the work
  - Help others to understand the reason why change is occurring



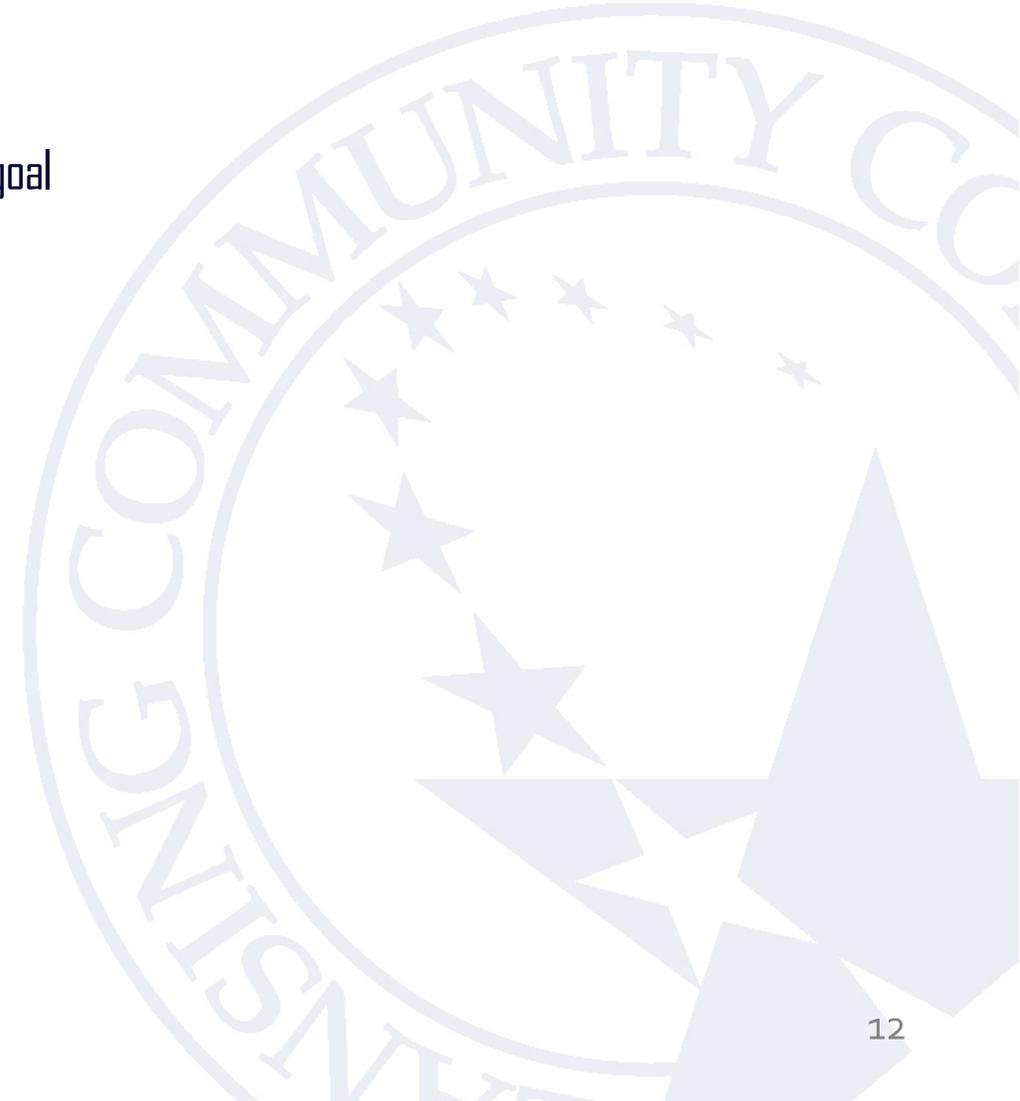
## Understanding the “Why”

- Connecting the work to the needs of people with disabilities and the mission of the institution
- Giving students the chance to share their stories
- Helping faculty and staff champions to connect with their peers about their experiences

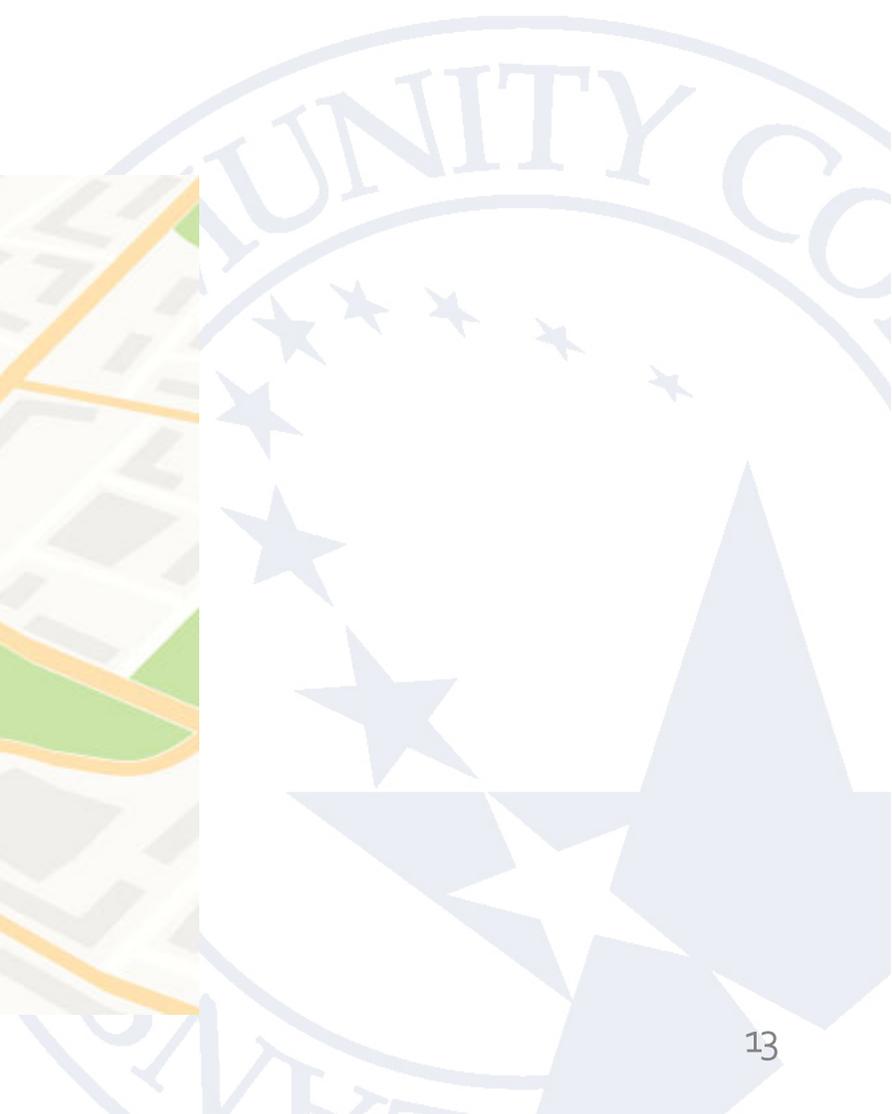


# Ensuring Compliance

- Creating a committee to evaluate whether we have met and continue to meet our goal
- Maintaining and updating document and form inventories
  - Working with departments to organize this process
  - Employing tools (like ALLY)
- Developing a system to periodically conduct accessibility “spot checks”



## Where We Are Now



# Moving Forward

- Digital accessibility is still crucial at LCC
- Ongoing theoretical and practical training on accessibility
- Establishing and maintaining structures for compliance
- Continuing to have conversations about the “why” of accessibility



# Questions?



# Contact

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