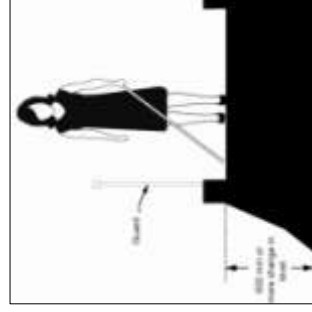
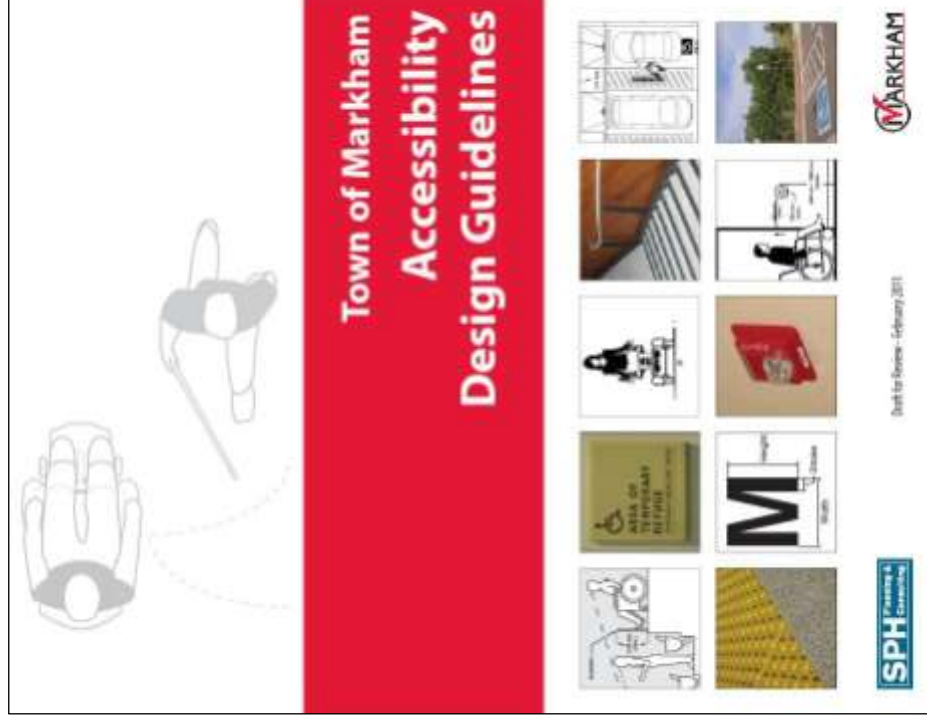




Accessibility Design Guidelines

Development Services Committee Presentation

September 13, 2011



Agenda

1.0 Introductions

2.0 Project Background

3.0 Accessibility Design Guidelines

- *Summary of Content*

4.0 Discussion

- *DSC Feedback / Q & A*



Accessibility Design Guidelines

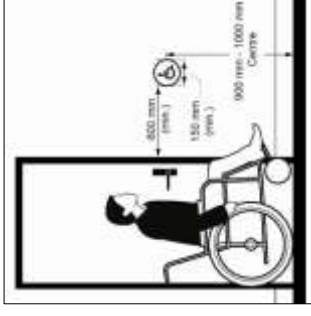
Project Background

- Update to earlier versions of Guidelines ('06/'07)
- Markham has demonstrated leadership in this area very early
- Address potential AODA requirements for design of the Built Environment that may come through
- Review, integrate existing and establish “Best Practices”
 - local, national and international
- Address departmental needs – improve content to assist with implementation



- Overall, update has been ongoing with other Town accessibility initiatives – audits / retrofits

- **Consultation:** Technical Advisory Committee, Staff, Accessibility Advisory Committee, Development Services Committee.

[illegible]

Summary of Content

- Technical criteria relates to needs of various users: **Key**

Types of Disabilities

- *Physical*
- *Auditory*
- *Visual*
- *Intellectual / Learning / Emotional*

- **Promoting understanding of cross-disabilities is important and that accessibility issues impact diverse users**

- **Barrier Free / Accessible Design** versus **Universal Design**
– *wide spectrum of ways to combine application of technical criteria to both new construction and retrofits*

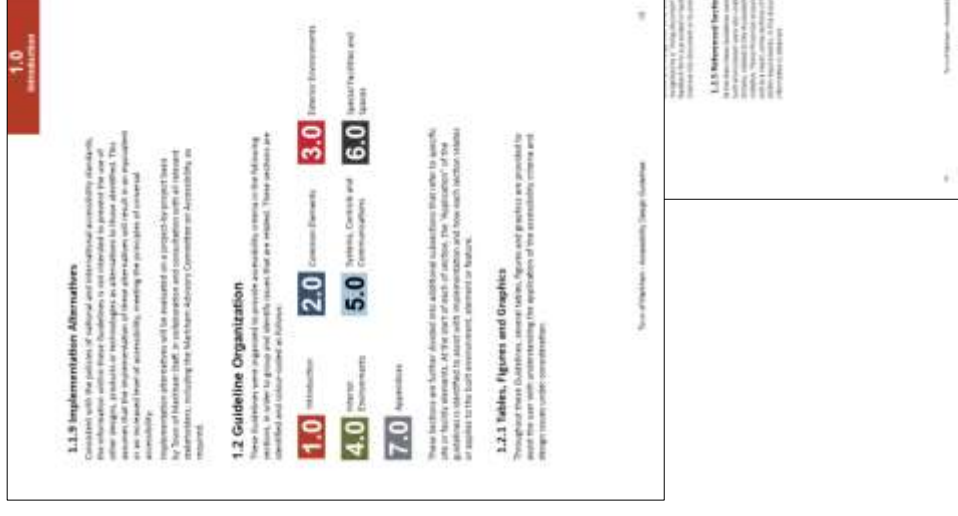




Accessibility Design Guidelines

Section 1.0 -Introduction

- **Regulatory Framework :** AODA, OBC, Planning Actset the context
- **Application of Guidelines:** Town leased, owned, operated facilities / infrastructure
- Focus on what Town can control until Provincial directions for private sector
- Summary of Guideline organization: **5 main sections described as follows.....**





2.2



Ramps

Application

This section applies to ramps provided as part of an accessible route within interior or exterior environments, where the slope of a path of travel exceeds a gradient of 1:10 (1%).

Reference

- Sec. 3.1. Ground and Floor Surfaces
- Sec. 3.2. Stairs and Ramps
- Sec. 3.3. Seating Surfaces
- Sec. 3.4. Seating Surfaces
- Sec. 3.5. Seating Surfaces
- Sec. 3.6. Seating Surfaces
- Sec. 3.7. Seating Surfaces
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- Sec. 3.99. Seating Surfaces
- Sec. 4.00. Seating Surfaces

- ## 2.2.1 Design Features
- provide a clear width of 1.22 m (minimum) between supports.
- Figure 2.2.1.1 illustrates the design features of a single lighting stand of 1.22 m (10 feet standard) (minimum), 1 m (3 feet) (maximum).
- ### 2.2.1.1.1 Running Slope
- maximum maximum gradient of 1:15 (6.67%) (Figure 2.2.1.1.1.1)
- ### 2.2.1.1.2 Cross-Slope
- maximum maximum gradient of 1:30 (3%)
-
- Figure 2.2.1.1.1: Single lighting stand
- 22
- Sound propagation, sound quality, design, standards



4.5 Washrooms

Application

This section applies to washroom facilities and amenities within a site and facility including, but not limited to:

- multiple-occupancy washrooms;
- universal toilet rooms; and
- change rooms with washroom features.

Reference

- Sec. 2.1 Ground and Floor Surfaces
- Sec. 2.5 Overhanging and Protruding Objects
- Sec. 4.2 Doors and Doorways
- Sec. 4.3 Interior Accessible Routes
- Sec. 5.1 Controls and Operating Mechanisms
- Sec. 3.6 Fire and Life Safety Systems
- Sec. 5.7 Lighting
- Sec. 5.8 Signage and Wayfinding

Best Practice

Universal toilet rooms allow the greatest flexibility, including larger floor space for people who require assistance and may be accompanied by a caregiver or companion, as well as to accommodate larger mobility aids such as power wheelchairs and scooters.

Typical Organization



4.5 Washrooms



Figure 5B: Example of Multiple Occupancy Washroom Layout

4.5.3 Universal Toilet Rooms

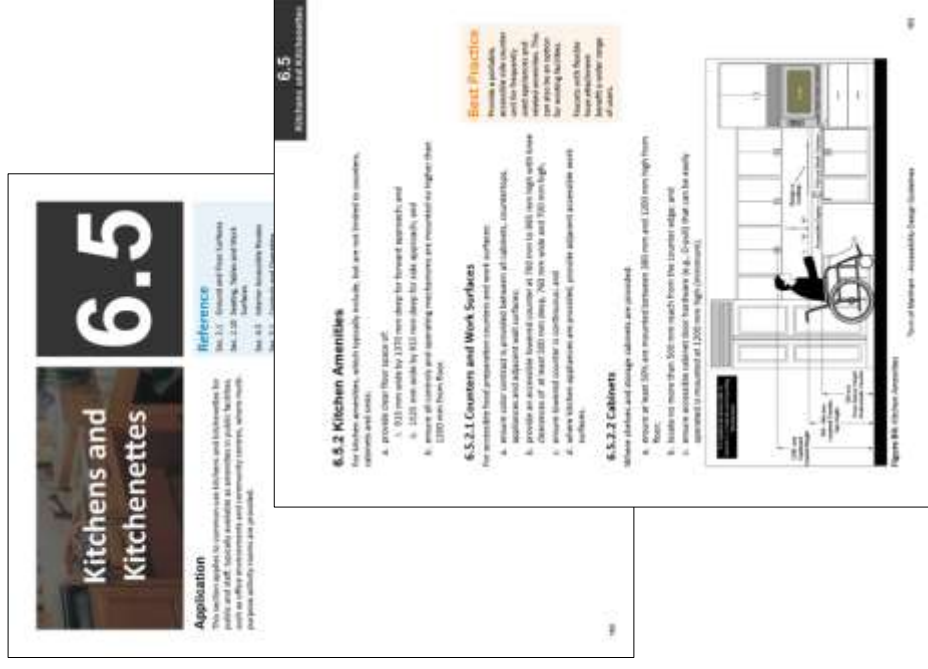
Where universal toilet rooms are provided:

- locate in the same vicinity as other washrooms along the shortest accessible route;
- mark with the International Symbol of Accessibility;
- provide accessible entrance door:
 - equip with power floor operator;
 - provide locking mechanism that can be opened from exterior, in case of emergency;
 - mount accessible operating and locking mechanisms 900 to 1000 mm above floor; and
 - where door swings outward, provide door closer, spring hinge or gravity hinge that offset floor automation;
- ensure internal dimensions between walls is not less than 2500 mm (Figure 5B);
- reserve floor surface is firm, yieldable and slip-resistant;
- ensure a minimum turning diameter of 1475 mm with transfer space inside toilet at 1200 mm wide by 1800 mm deep (Figure 5B);
- provide an accessible sanitary with washroom amenities as identified in previous items;
- provide accessible water closet with suitable rear and side grab bars as identified in this section;
- provide mirror mirror for automatic illumination of toilet;
- install audible and visual fire alarm systems; and

Technical content: Graphic, text and “notes” for additional clarification

Section 6.0 Special Facilities and Spaces

- This section recognizes that there are always unique considerations
- Intended for additional guidance, but impossible to cover everything
- New: Introduction of the concept of visit-ability ; Other areas include: Assembly Areas / Meeting Rooms / Libraries / Recreational Facilities / Trails



Implementation Considerations

Potential Challenges?

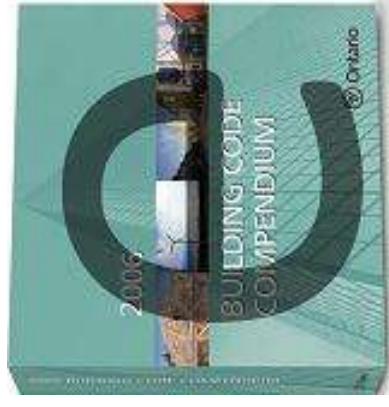
- Resistance from designers/contractors/consulting firms – “we follow the Building Code” / lack of awareness
- Perceived costs of implementing Guidelines may be “high” regardless of any proof – what is the cost of discrimination?
- Need to coordinate review of Town projects against ADG as early as possible – experience over time
- All Town departments and staff may not be aware of ADG or their responsibility to use it in daily operations
- Town can encourage other projects to enhance accessibility – new construction



AODA Update: ABES

Accessible Built Environment Standard (ABES)

- Proposed standard expected to address access into and within buildings and outdoor spaces
- Currently reviewing relationship to Ontario Building Code and likely Cost implications for implementation
- Focus of initial proposed standard on preventing barriers on a go forward basis – new buildings and building undergoing major renovations
- Awaiting Ministry approval: Final proposed standard was submitted to the Minister in Summer 2010 – **CURRENT STATUS UNKNOWN**

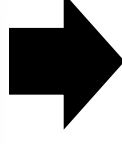


Next Steps

- Integrate Changes related to feedback
- Adoption of Guidelines for Implementation (e.g., new construction and retrofits)
- Conduct ongoing Staff awareness and training
- Establish linkages to other Town initiatives – (Ongoing Process)



Markham Sustainability Pillars



Priority: Social Equity

Final Thoughts

- Accessible design – **often simple and practical solutions** that benefit a wide range of users
- **Standards are always evolving** as design evolves and greater understanding of user needs
- **Expect continuous learning** – hard to be an expert in everything
- **Cross-departmental collaboration** can help embrace a culture of accessibility at work and in the community
- Continue to be an **Accessibility Champion** to promote inclusion and address AODA requirements



Thank-you!

