

ADA Technical Frequently Asked Questions

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ADA with ROW Technical

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the correct way to select and label curb ramp types using the Standard Construction Details?

Curb ramp Types 1 & 2 are used to address ADA at locations where there are no ROW constraints. Curb ramp Types 3, 4 and 7 can be utilized to address ADA at locations where ROW constraints are present. For example, a location not having enough space to accommodate both a landing/turning space and a 12:1 ramp. Curb ramp Types 3 & 4 allow the 12:1 ramp to be shorter by utilizing approach sidewalk transitions which accommodate the difference in elevation of the ramp. A curb ramp Type 5 is used for travel in a single direction only, and therefore, does not require a turning space. While the other curb ramp types are perpendicular to the curb line, curb ramp Type 5 is parallel to the roadway, which creates a triangular wedge between the curb and the 12:1 ramp. Curb ramp Type 6 accommodates two directions of travel by using a shared landing/turning space.

2. When do you label a curb ramp as modified (e.g. Type 4 Modified)?

A curb ramp is labeled as modified when it deviates from the criteria depicted in the Standard Construction Details. For example, when a curb ramp is a mixture of two standard curb ramps.

3. When is a Detectable Warning Surface (DWS) to be placed at driveways?

Where commercial driveways are provided with traffic control devices (e.g. stop, yield sign or traffic signal) or otherwise are permitted to operate like public streets, a DWS should be provided at the junction between the pedestrian route and the street/driveway.

4. Are curb ramps required where there are existing/proposed pedestrian pushbuttons at intersections with no sidewalk?

Where pedestrian pushbuttons have been provided at intersections with no sidewalk, curb ramps with landing areas shall be provided at both ends of the crosswalk associated with the pedestrian pushbuttons.

5. What are the ADA requirements for Limited Scope Projects and Full Scope Projects?

Limited Scope Projects require curb ramps to be constructed (including approach sidewalk transitions) and pedestrian pushbutton accessibility in order to be ADA compliant. In addition to the above requirements, Full Scope Projects require sidewalks and driveways to be ADA compliant.

6. Are pushbuttons extenders allowed?

Pushbutton extenders may be allowed in certain applications. Contact the NJDOT Bureau of Traffic Engineering for pushbutton extender use and approval.

7. Can a curb be proposed in front of or on the side of traffic signal pole?

Curb should be at least two feet from the traffic signal pole in order to avoid impacting the foundation.

8. What is the slope requirement for the triangular wedge on a curb ramp Type 5 or Type 6?

When designing a curb ramp Type 5 or Type 6, ensure the slope of the triangular wedge is 2% maximum. Curb ramp Types 5 & 6 are not perpendicular to the curb line. Therefore, the two front wheels of the mobility device will not enter this section at the same time. The 2% maximum slope facilitates the transition of the mobility device onto the curb ramp.

9. Does a ramp cross slope greater than 2% (due to a roadway profile) require a Technically Infeasible Form (TIF)?

No, the ramp cross slope is not an NJDOT requirement. The ramp cross slope is allowed to follow the roadway profile and no TIF is required.

10. Can the shared landing/turning space of curb ramp Type 6 have a cross slope greater than 2% due to the existing roadway profile?

Technically no, since the 2% maximum slope is needed to address both directions of travel. In certain instances, it is not possible to achieve the 2% maximum slope due to the roadway profile, therefore making the curb ramp non-compliant. In these instances, a TIF is required to be submitted.

11. Should the minimum 4' x 4' clear space at the bottom of a curb ramp be wholly contained within the marked crosswalk?

Yes, the clear space should be wholly contained within the marked crosswalk.

12. Are marked crosswalks required to be shown on the curb ramp layout details?

Yes, providing existing or proposed marked crosswalks in the curb ramp layout details helps the reviewer to verify that the clear spaces are wholly contained within the crosswalks.

13. Do curb ramps need to be aligned with the crosswalks?

No.

14. Are DWS domes required to be aligned with the direction of the crosswalk?

No. DWS's are required to be placed such that the truncated domes are aligned with the direction of travel on the curb ramp. This may also happen to be aligned with the direction of the crosswalk, but dome alignment with the direction on the curb ramp governs.

15. Are center/diagonal curb ramp allowed by NJDOT?

Yes, but center/diagonal curb ramps are not the preferred configuration.

16. What is the required DWS length?

The DWS shall extend 2 feet minimum in the direction of travel and extend the full width of the ramp. When a curb ramp width is larger than 4 feet, use multiple DWS's.

17. Is a turning space required for a curb ramp Type 5?

A curb ramp Type 5 is used for travel in a single direction only, and therefore, does not require a turning space.

18. Can a single TIF be submitted for multiple curb ramps?

No. Specify each individual non-compliant curb ramp on a separate TIF.

19. Is a TIF needed when applying the 15' Rule?

Yes, a TIF must be submitted specifying the proposed ramp slope after applying the 15' Rule.

20. What date should be provided on the TIF?

The submission date shall be provided on the TIF (on the upper right corner of the form). If changes are made after the first submission, a revision date should be provided on the TIF for tracking purposes.

21. When an existing non-compliant curb ramp is the best fit, what should be provided on the TIF?

The TIF must contain a statement explaining the reason why the existing non-compliant curb ramp is the best fit and what elements are not compliant. Photographs depicting the curb ramp non-compliant elements should be attached to the TIF.

22. Do the curb ramps on the Standard Construction Details apply to tangent curb sections only?

No, curb ramp Types 1 through 7 are normally placed on the curb radius of intersections and can also be placed on tangent curb sections as drawn on the Standard Construction Details.

23. Do recently constructed curb ramps need to be re-evaluated?

Yes, recently constructed curb ramps must be re-evaluated to ensure that they meet current standards.

24. Is a Pedestrian Pushbutton Installation (PBI) allowed to be installed in the turning space?

Yes, a PBI is allowed to be located within the turning space as long as a minimum 4' x 4' turning space area is maintained.

25. When there are headers, what are the preferred dimensions for the landing/turning space?

A 5' x 4' minimum landing/turning space is the preferred dimension, with the 5' dimension being perpendicular to the header in order to allow enough space for the turning of the front casters on mobility devices.