PEDESTRIAN ACCESS DURING CONSTRUCTION

Last Revision 12/14/07

The following standards apply to City of Bellevue crews, contractors working within the City, and others working within the City's right of way to ensure pedestrian safety and access.

MAINTENANCE OF A CLEAR AND ACCESSIBLE PEDESTRIAN CORRIDOR

The Contractor or permittee shall maintain an accessible corridor that provides at least one safe path of travel for all pedestrians at all times for the duration of the project.

- The pedestrian corridor shall be a width of 5 feet whenever feasible, and shall conform to ADAAG guidelines. It shall not be less than 4 feet wide at any single point.
- The accessible pedestrian corridor shall connect with facilities throughout the project area.
- Equipment, debris, construction materials or vehicles shall not obstruct the corridor.
- No parked vehicles shall obstruct designated handicap parking spaces unless permitted by the City.
- Temporary closure of designated pedestrian routes and crossings shall be allowed only when flaggers are present and safely directing pedestrians around hazards.

TEMPORARY RAMPS CONFORMING TO ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS

The Contractor or permittee shall install and maintain temporary concrete, asphalt or wood ramps to provide a safe path of travel for mobility-impaired pedestrians at all locations where ramps have been temporarily removed OR needed to route pedestrians.

- Temporary ramps shall be constructed so that installation and removal will not damage existing pavement, curb or gutter.
- Ramps shall have a minimum 4 feet wide walking surface and slope not to exceed 8%.
- Ramps shall snugly meet existing surfaces without gaps. When required for drainage, Schedule 40 PVC pipe (min. 2") shall be installed through ramp.
- Transitions between ramps and the street surface shall be smooth such that no lip exists at the base of the ramp.
- Sides of a ramp shall be protected where there is any drop-off.

IDENTIFICATION OF SAFE PATH OF TRAVEL

If a portion of the pedestrian way is rerouted due to construction, the path of travel shall be clearly defined.

- Pedestrian access corridors shall be clearly delineated with cones, barrels, barricades, or fencing as approved by the Engineer.
- If a crosswalk is closed, curb ramps leading into that crosswalk must be barricaded in such a manner that walkways that are not closed remain accessible to use.
- Caution Tape shall not be used by itself to delineate the path of travel or create a barricade.
- At no time will the sidewalks on both sides of the street, within the same block, be closed at the same time.

CONSTRUCTION OF SIGNPOSTS, BARRICADES AND FENCING

Impenetrable barricades shall be used to separate pedestrians from hazards on all sides of excavations that may be exposed to pedestrians. Use materials and methods suitable to site conditions. Signs and fencing material shall not protrude into the clear pathway.

- Paths of travel that do not continue to the next corner or to a safe crosswalk shall be closed to pedestrian traffic. Signs must be posted stating that the sidewalk is closed and must detour pedestrians to accessible sidewalk.
- A-frames used for defining path of travel shall be placed end-to-end without spacing, shall be connected and maintained to ensure stability to help a sight-impaired person negotiate a safe path when using a cane. Any barricade or fencing requires a minimum 3 inches high, solid, uninterrupted toe-board.
- Signposts, scaffolding and fencing supports shall be placed entirely outside the pedestrian path of travel, minimum 4 feet wide and 80 inches high without obstruction.
- Construction barriers shall be maintained in a sound, neat and clean condition.

SURFACING OF PEDESTRIAN CORRIDORS

During construction, tripping hazards and barriers for people with mobility impairments must be removed to maintain an accessible pedestrian corridor.

- Any change of level which exceeds ¼" height must be beveled at 45 degrees.
- Closed trenches, temporary paving surfaces, walking surfaces, steel sheets, etc. shall have a smoothly finished, firm walking surface made even with surrounding walkways. Compacted gravel is not considered an acceptable walking surface.
- Aisle or loading area adjacent to a parking space is part of the pedestrian corridor.

RESTORATION OF PEDESTRIAN ROUTES

After construction, the site shall be returned to its former condition, or new condition as required.

- Temporary ramps shall be removed as soon as construction and approval of permanent ramp is completed. The sidewalk must be opened as soon as possible.
- After work is completed, the surface of the pedestrian path shall be restored free from all ridges, gaps, bumps and rough edges.
- Construction that affects an existing curb ramp shall include replacement or repair of the curb ramp to meet current City standards.

Note: The City may stop work when any hazardous conditions are present!