

City of Newport Beach - Building Department

BUILDING CODE POLICY

Effective Date	Subject	Policy No.
March 16, 2005 Revised: December 8, 2008 Revised: May 11, 2010	Detectable Warnings	Policies #s CBC 1133B.8.5 CBC 1127B.5(7) CBC 1121B.3.1(8)(a)

California Building Code Sections 1133B.8.5, 1127B.5(7) and 1121B.3.1(8)(a), all require the use of State-approved detectable warning products. The State of California is in the process of developing a product evaluation process. In the interim, the State accepts a five-year warranty from the manufacturer of the detectable warning product (see attached bulletin).

The City of Newport Beach Building Department enforces State disabled access regulation for private property. When installation of detectable warning is required, a copy of DSA product approval letter is required to be scanned on the drawings. Until the Division of State Architect (DSA) evaluation and product approval program for detectable warning products is implemented and product approvals can be issued, the City of Newport Beach will accept a written five (5) year product warranty provided by the manufacturer of detectable warning products and directional surfaces.

Warranty shall indicate compliance with architectural standards as published in the current edition of the California Building Standards Code, and also include durability criteria which indicate that the shape, color fastness, confirmation, sound-on-cane acoustic quality, resilience, and attachment will not degrade significantly for at least five (5) years after initial installation.

“Not degrade significantly” means that the product maintains at least 90 percent of its approved design characteristics, as determined by the enforcing agency. A copy of the product warranty shall be scanned onto the drawings. Detail of the truncated domes similar to CBC Figure 11B-23A is required on the plans.

The City of Newport Beach also accepts truncated domes in a square grid pattern per DSA Policy IR 11B-4 and DSA checklist diagram (copy attached).

Attachment

Jay Elbettar, Building Director



State of California • Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor
State and Consumer Services Agency

DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES

Division of the State Architect - Headquarters

DSA BULLETIN

DATE: October 31, 2002
Revised: September 27, 2004

TO: **DSA JURISDICTION:** where state funds are utilized for any project or where funds of counties, municipalities or other political subdivisions are utilized for the construction of elementary, secondary or community college projects.

GOVERNING BODIES: where funds of counties, municipalities or other political subdivisions are utilized except as otherwise provided above.

CITY AND COUNTY JURISDICTIONS: The building department of every city, county, or city and county within the territorial area of its city, county, or city and county, where private funds are utilized. Building department means the department, bureau or officer charged with the enforcement of laws or ordinances regulating the erection or construction, or both the erection and construction, of buildings.

OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES

FROM: Department of General Services, Division of the State Architect

SUBJECT: **EXCEPTION TO THE INDEPENDENT ENTITY EVALUATION AND PRODUCT APPROVAL OF DETECTABLE WARNINGS AND DIRECTIONAL SURFACES**

1. AUTHORITY

This bulletin is issued pursuant to the authority granted by California Government Code Section 4460, which authorizes the Department of General Services, Division of the State Architect (DSA) to grant exceptions to the product approval of detectable warnings and directional surfaces.

2. BACKGROUND

Federal and California state regulations currently require detectable warnings and directional surfaces that warn blind or visually impaired persons of hazards, or that provide for directional wayfinding.

The 2001 triennial edition of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 24, contains new regulations aimed at implementing Section 4460 of the California Government Code. Under these new regulations; detectable warning products and directional surfaces require evaluation and product approval by an independent entity selected by the Division of the State Architect as set forth in CCR, Title 24, Part 1 (California Building Standards Administrative Code), Chapter 5, Articles 2, 3, and 4; Part 2 (California Buildings Standards Code) Sections 1102A.3-C, 1117A.4.7, 1102B, 1127B.5(8), 1131B.4, 1133B.8.3, 1133B.8.4, 1133B.8.5); Part 12 (California Referenced Standards Code) Chapter 12-11A and 12-11B.

3. SUMMARY

The development of an evaluation and approval program for detectable warning products and directional surfaces is currently underway; however it will not be fully implemented by the November 1, 2002 effective date of the 2001 California Building Standards Codes.

Until the DSA evaluation and product approval program for detectable warning products and directional surfaces is implemented and product approvals can be issued, DSA will accept a written five (5) year product warranty provided by the manufacturer of detectable warning products and directional surfaces. Such warranty shall indicate compliance with architectural standards as published in the current edition of the California Building Standards Code, and also include durability criteria which indicate that the shape, color fastness, confirmation, sound-on-cane acoustic quality, resilience, and attachment will not degrade significantly for at least five (5) years after initial installation.

As used in this bulletin, "not degrade significantly" means that the product maintains at least 90 percent of its approved design characteristics, as determined by the enforcing agency.

NOTE: Consult with the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) when these products and surfaces may be mandated for use in residential housing.

4. QUESTIONS

For questions regarding this bulletin contact:

Derek Shaw
Associate Architect
Division of the State Architect
Office of Universal Design
1102 Q. Street, Suite 5100
Sacramento, CA 95814-3965

Phone: (916) 445-8100
Email: derek.shaw@dgs.ca.gov

5. AVAILABILITY OF ALTERNATIVE FORMATS

Copies of this bulletin are available in the following formats: standard print, large print, audiocassette tape, and computer disk. Copies can be obtained by calling the Division of the State Architect, Office of Universal Design at (916) 445-8100.

DETECTABLE WARNINGS AT CURB RAMPS

IR 11B-3

Discipline: Access Compliance

Issued 01-26-05

References: California Building Code Sections: 1117A.4.7 and 1127B.5 Item 8

See IR 11B-2 and 11B-4

California Government Code Section 4451(d)

Americans with Disabilities Act Standards for Accessible Design Section 4.7.7

This Interpretation of Regulation (IR) is intended for use by the Division of the State Architect (DSA) staff, and as a resource for design professionals, to promote more uniform statewide criteria for plan review and construction inspection of projects within the jurisdiction of DSA. This IR indicates an acceptable method for achieving compliance with applicable codes and regulations, although other methods proposed by design professionals may be considered by DSA.

This IR is reviewed on a regular basis and is subject to revision at any time. Please check the DSA web site for currently effective IR's. Only IR's listed in the document at http://www.dsa.dgs.ca.gov/UniversalDesign/ud_accessmanual.htm (click on "Interpretations of Regulations") at the time of plan submittal to DSA are considered applicable.

Purpose: This interpretation clarifies acceptable design and installation requirements of detectable warnings at curb ramps under Division of the State Architect (DSA) jurisdiction, which includes state-funded buildings and facilities, State of California public elementary and secondary schools (grades K-12), community colleges and universities.

General: California Building Code Sections 1127B.5 Item 8 and 1117A.4.7 state "a curb ramp shall have a detectable warning....when the ramp slope is less than 1 unit vertical to 15 units horizontal (6.7% slope)."

However, the Americans with Disabilities Act Standards for Accessible Design Section 4.7.7 indicates that curb ramps shall have a detectable warning surface without regard to the slope of the ramp.

Design Requirements: Per California Government Code 4451(d), until such building standards are published in the California Building Standards Code that meet or exceed the requirements of the federal Americans with Disabilities Act, and specifically in this case the Americans with Disabilities Act Standards for Accessible Design Section 4.7.7, the DSA will accept curb ramp designs which indicate detectable warnings at curb ramps regardless of slope.

DETECTABLE WARNINGS

IR 11B-4

Discipline: Access Compliance

Issued 01-26-05

References: California Building Code Sections: 1117A.4.5 and 1127B.5 Items 3 & 5

See IR 11B-3

California Government Code Section 4451(d) & (f).

Americans with Disabilities Act Standards for Accessible Design Section 4.7.2

This Interpretation of Regulation (IR) is intended for use by the Division of the State Architect (DSA) staff, and as a resource for design professionals, to promote more uniform statewide criteria for plan review and construction inspection of projects within the jurisdiction of DSA. This IR indicates an acceptable method for achieving compliance with applicable codes and regulations, although other methods proposed by design professionals may be considered by DSA.

This IR is reviewed on a regular basis and is subject to revision at any time. Please check the DSA web site for currently effective IR's. Only IR's listed in the document at http://www.dsa.dgs.ca.gov/UniversalDesign/ud_accessmanual.htm (click on "Interpretations of Regulations") at the time of plan submittal to DSA are considered applicable.

Purpose: This interpretation clarifies acceptable alternative design and installation requirements for detectable warnings under Division of the State Architect (DSA) jurisdiction, which includes state-funded buildings and facilities, State of California public elementary and secondary schools (grades K-12), community colleges and universities.

General: The California Building Code indicates technical criteria for detectable warning surfaces (truncated domes). The technical criteria include dome pattern, dome spacing and dimensional placement.

The U.S. Access Board develops the minimum design standards for complying with the ADA, and has also developed and considered detailed research studies regarding pedestrians and the use of detectable warning surfaces. Under the Access Board, the Public Rights-of-Way Access Advisory Committee was established in 1999 to develop additional ADAAG provisions. The advisory committee reached agreement on recommended accessibility standards for new and altered public rights-of-way covered by the ADA. The standards proposed by the committee were presented in a report titled *Building a True Community*. The draft guidelines issued by the Access Board, consistent with the advisory committee's recommendations, include revised technical criteria for detectable warnings.

The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) is a designated agency responsible for enforcing the standards and implementing regulations of the ADA Title II (State and Local Government Services). The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), under the USDOT, is the enforcement authority for overseeing pedestrian discrimination issues under the Title II implementing regulations. Both FHWA and the Access Board are encouraging the use of the new technical criteria for detectable warnings over the original ADA design standard.

Acceptable Alternative Designs: The Division of the State Architect (DSA) recognizes the federal research effort and that the new technical criteria provide substantially equivalent or greater access and usability as modified and specifically indicated below.

Regarding the dome pattern and dome spacing for detectable warnings, the DSA will accept, as an acceptable alternative design, detectable warning surfaces that comply with all of the following:

1. Pattern: Detectable warnings consisting of a surface with truncated domes that are aligned in a square grid (in-line) pattern.

2. Dome Spacing: Truncated domes aligned in a square grid (in-line) pattern shall have a center-to-center spacing of 1.67 inches (42.4 mm).

In addition to the above criteria regarding detectable warning design, the DSA will accept, as an acceptable alternative design, dimensional placement of detectable warning surfaces at curb ramps that comply with the following criteria:

3. Dimensional Placement at Curb Ramps: The detectable warning surface shall extend 36 inches (914.4 mm) minimum in the direction of travel for the full width of the curb ramp and shall be located so that the edge nearest the curb line is 6 inches (152.4 mm) minimum and 8 inches (203.2 mm) maximum from the curb line. *Curb line* means a line at the face of the curb that marks the transition between the sidewalk and the gutter or roadway. For curb ramps, also see IR 11B-2 and 11B-3.