

**C3**

**Communication**

**Accessibility Advisory**

**Committee – April 28, 2025**

**Item No. 3**

# Vaughan Inclusive Design Standards

Proposed Updates  
April 2025

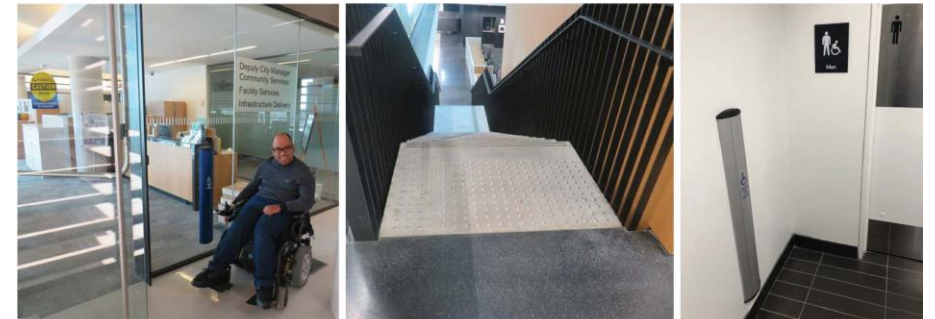
# What is the Inclusive Design Standard?

First Edition, July 2020

- “IDS” Developed by the City of Vaughan in 2020
- Applies to All City-Owned or Leased Buildings, Infrastructure and Elements
- Applies to New Construction and Renovations to Existing Facilities



## Inclusive Design Standards (IDS)



# IDS Mandate

First Edition, July 2020

- Universal Design:

*“design of products and environments to be usable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialized design.”*

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- Diversity

Encourages the inclusion and integration of diverse communities

- Barrier Removal

Preventing and removing barriers that create separation and special treatment

- Provincial Directions

Accessibility Standards Developed under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)

- Changing Demographics

- People with varying types of disabilities comprise a significant proportion of the population

# Ontario Design of Public Spaces Standards Development Committee

2023 Initial  
Recommendations Report

- 127 Recommendations fall into 4 Groups:

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| Group 1: | We Support the Recommendation<br>Incorporate by Amending the Vaughan IDS |
| Group 2: | Already Included<br>No Change to Vaughan IDS                             |
| Group 3: | Not Applicable<br>No Change to Vaughan IDS                               |
| Group 4: | We do not Support the Recommendation<br>No Change to Vaughan IDS         |

# Definitions

Expand the List of Defined Terms

Align Definitions with Those of Other Standards

## Add Definitions to 7.1 Glossary of Terms:

|                         |                         |                             |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Addition                | Lavatory                | Recreational Trails         |
| Alteration              | Luminance               | Redeveloped                 |
| Braille                 | Maintenance             | Repair                      |
| Beach Access Route      | Multi-Use Path          | Rest Area                   |
| Cane Detectable         | Multi-Use Trail         | Shared Use Walkway          |
| Change Bench            | On-Street Parking       | Sidewalk                    |
| Construct               | Off Street Parking      | Signage                     |
| Cross Slope             | Passenger Pick-up Area  | Sign Controlled             |
| Crosswalk               | Pedestrian Area         | Intersection                |
| Curb                    | Pedestrian Crossing     | Slope                       |
| Exterior Path of Travel | Pedestrian Right-of-Way | Tactile Attention Indicator |

## Definitions Standards, Ranked in Order of Precedence:

CSA B651  
AODA 80.1  
Ontario Building Code  
MTO Ontario Traffic Manual

Vaughan Zoning Bylaw 001-2021  
California DSA  
California Building Code

ADA 302.1

# Site Plan Approval

Expand the Scope of  
Accessibility Review at the  
Site Plan Stage

## Enlarge 3.7 Site Plan Accessibility Impacts Checklist:

- 2.1.1 Ground Surfaces
- 2.1.4 Gratings and Covers
- 2.5 Overhanging and Protruding Objects
- 2.6 Rest Areas
- 2.7 Tactile Walking Surface Indicators
- 2.8 Drinking Fountains
- 2.9 Public Telephones &c
- 2.10 Seating, Tables and Work Surfaces





# Temporary Conditions

Expand the Scope of the IDS to Include Temporary Conditions

Add New IDS Section 6.22, "Temporary Conditions":

Application:

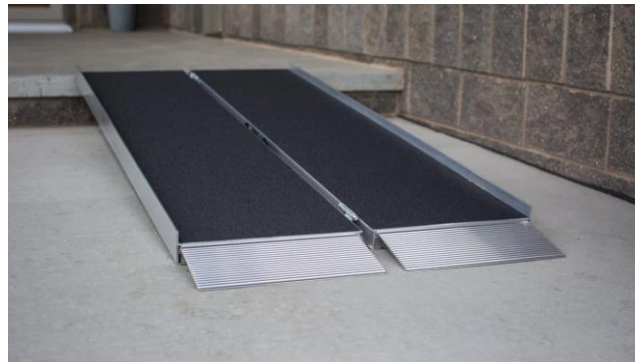
Applies to areas and building elements which are in the process of maintenance, renovation or alteration and to moveable elements which are not intended to be permanent.

Maintenance

Portable Ramps

Portable Toilets

Obstructions



# Bilingual and Braille Signage

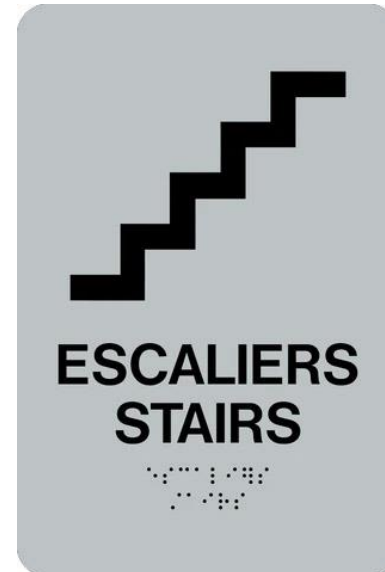
Add Requirements for French and Braille Signage to the IDS

Modify IDS 5.8 to Require Bilingual Visual and Braille Signage

Where text is present, include bilingual text in English and French;

Where English braille is provided, provide French braille as well;

Require standardized braille: Unified English Braille (UEB) and Code Braille Français Uniformisé (CBFU)





# Dog Off-Leash Areas

Expand the Scope of the IDS  
to Include Dog Off-Leash  
Areas

Add New IDS Section 6.21, “Dog Off-Leash Areas”:

Path of travel

Level area

Waste receptacles

Signage

Firm and stable surface

Entrance gate

Rest area with seating



# Animal Relief Areas

Expand the Scope of the IDS to Include Toileting Facilities for Service Animals

Add New IDS Section 2.11, Service Animal Relief Areas:

Indoors or outdoors in public buildings that are 5 storeys or larger than 14,000 m<sup>2</sup>.

Path of travel

Gate

Fencing

Signage

Texture

Contrast

Lighting

Handwashing

Drainage

Waste Receptacle

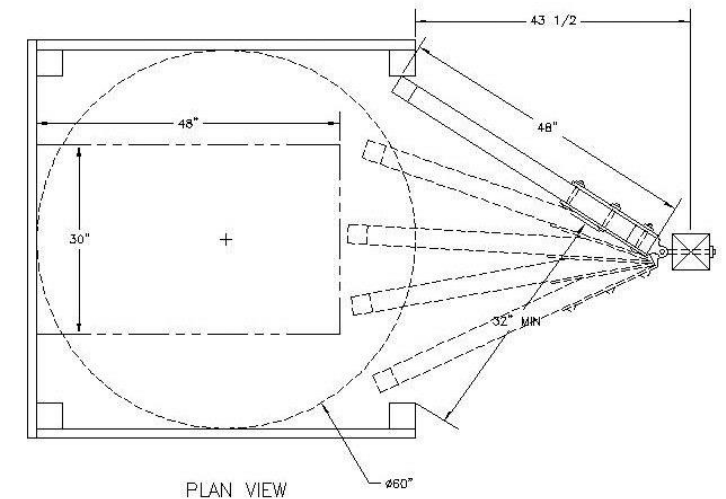
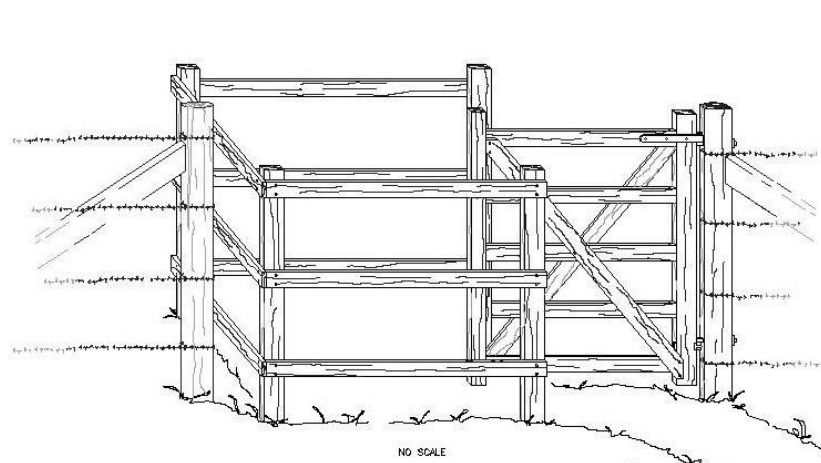




# Exterior Doors

Modify the IDS to Cover Exterior  
Doors and Gates

Move the IDS Section on Doors from the Section on Interiors to the Section  
on Interior and Exterior Elements



# Connections

Specify that an Accessible Route Shall Connect all Accessible Areas

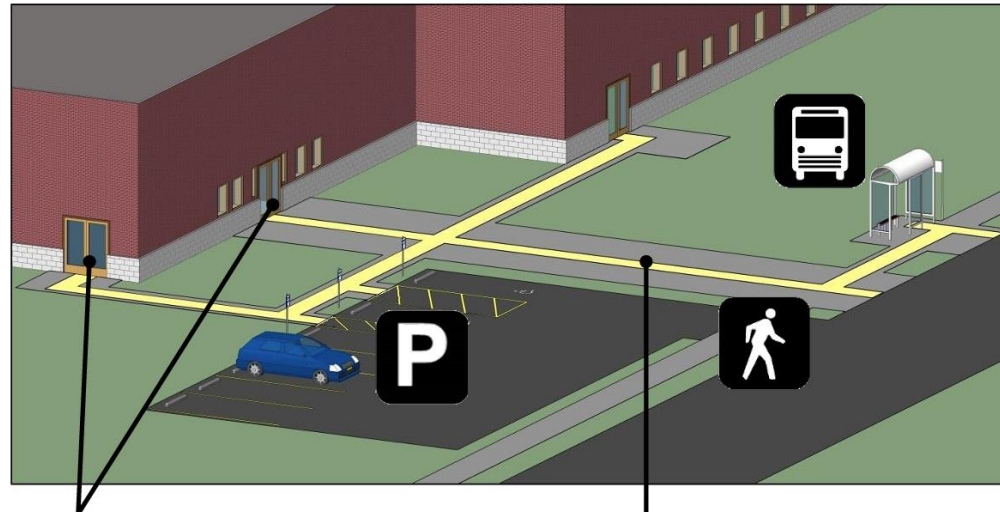
Modify IDS Section 3.3 (Exterior) and 4.3 (Interior):

## 3.3 Exterior Paths of Travel:

"Exterior paths of travel complying with this section shall connect the main building entrance to all accessible areas and amenities on site and to a pedestrian walk within the public way."

## 4.3 Interior Accessible Routes

"Interior accessible routes complying with this section shall connect building entrances to all accessible areas within a building."



*An accessible route must connect site arrival points to each accessible entrance they serve.*

*Accessible routes must coincide with, or be in the same vicinity as, general circulation paths (§206.3).*



# Eating Areas

All Public Use Eating Areas Shall Be Accessible

## Modify IDS Section 6.4.4 Cafeteria and Dining Facilities

All tables

All table benches

Variety of tables and seating

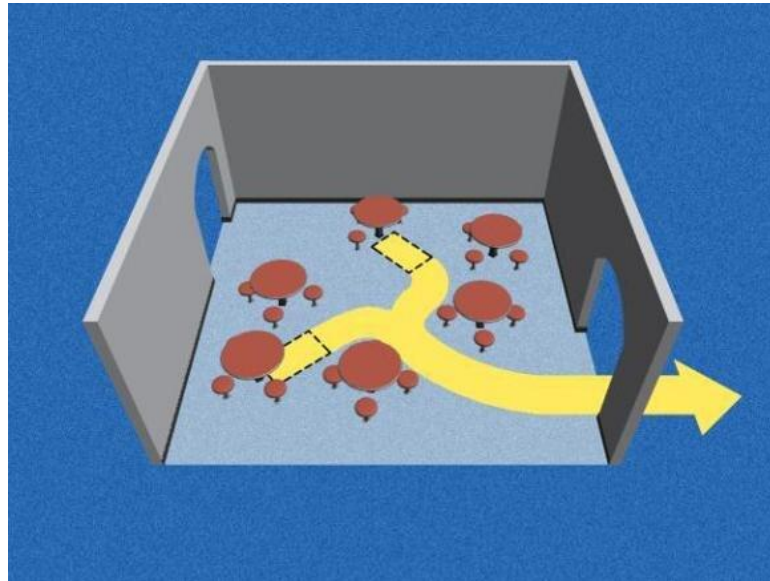
Clear space

Level, firm and stable Floor or Ground

Signage

Monitoring

Waste Receptacles



# Ramp Slope

Reduce the Maximum Slope and Length of Ramps.



Recommendation 8: The Maximum Slope of Ramps should be 1:20  
If implemented, there would be no benefit to ever providing a ramp

Maximum Slope of Walking Surface Which is Not a Ramp (1:20)

Maximum Slope of Ramp Under the Current IDS (1:15)

Maximum Slope of Ramp in North American Building Codes



# Power Door Operators

Provide at All Doors on a Barrier Free Path of Travel.

If Implemented, all Doors Would Have to Have power door openers

Currently, power door operators must be provided at:

Accessible washrooms

Some assembly occupancies

Public building entrances

Doors without adequate clear space

We do not support this recommendation because it could impede egress

- Hard to operate manually (15 – 30 Pounds)
- Slow to open and close in an emergency;
- Vulnerable to power failures.
- Vulnerable to deferred maintenance



# Larger Parking Stalls

For all Accessible spaces

## All Accessible Spaces to have 3000mm overhead

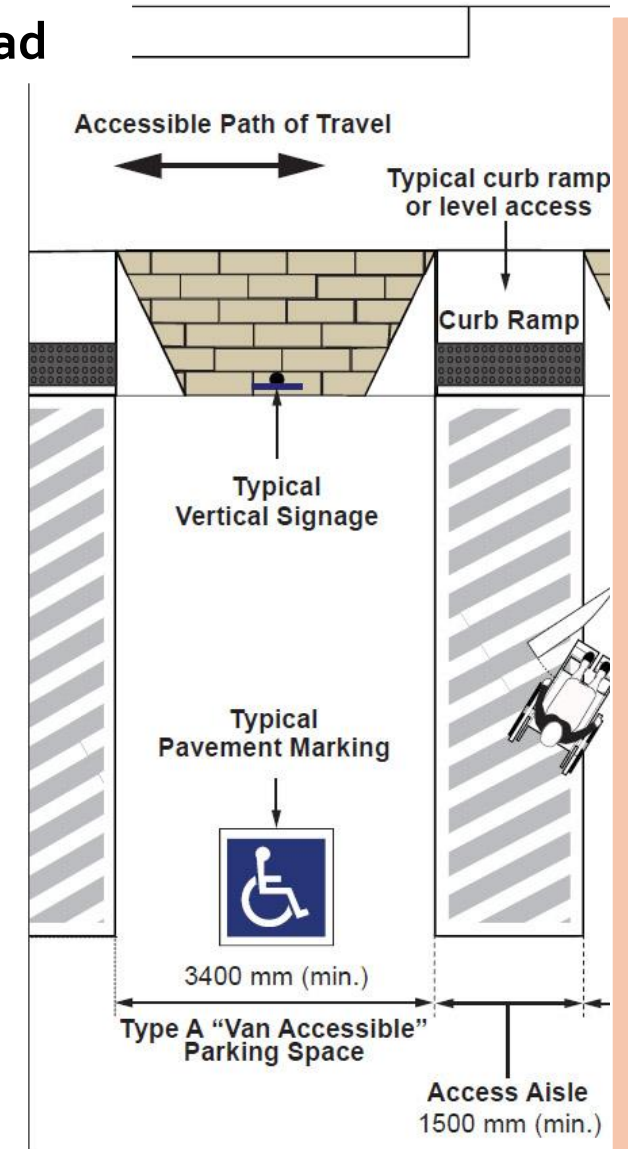
We do not support this recommendation because it doesn't improve accessibility

- The U.S. requires 2500 mm (Vans are not larger in Canada).
- Vaughan IDS already requires 2750mm.
- Most indoor parking floors could not comply

## All Accessible spaces to be Van Accessible

We do not support this recommendation because the need is not demonstrable

- Adds 1m width - reduces total parking count
- Need not supported by available data



# Larger Parking Stalls

For all Electric Vehicle parking spaces

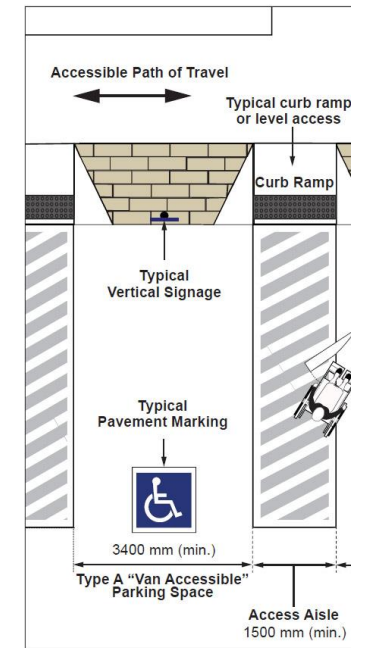
## All Electric Vehicle spaces to be Van Accessible

We do not support this recommendation because:

- It would add 2.9m to the width of EV spaces;
- The vast majority of EV users would not benefit from additional width;
- Becomes increasingly infeasible as the demand for EV charging spaces grows;
- It would punish developers for providing EV spaces.

A Better Solution:

Require EV Charging at Van Accessible spaces in parking facilities which have EV spaces.



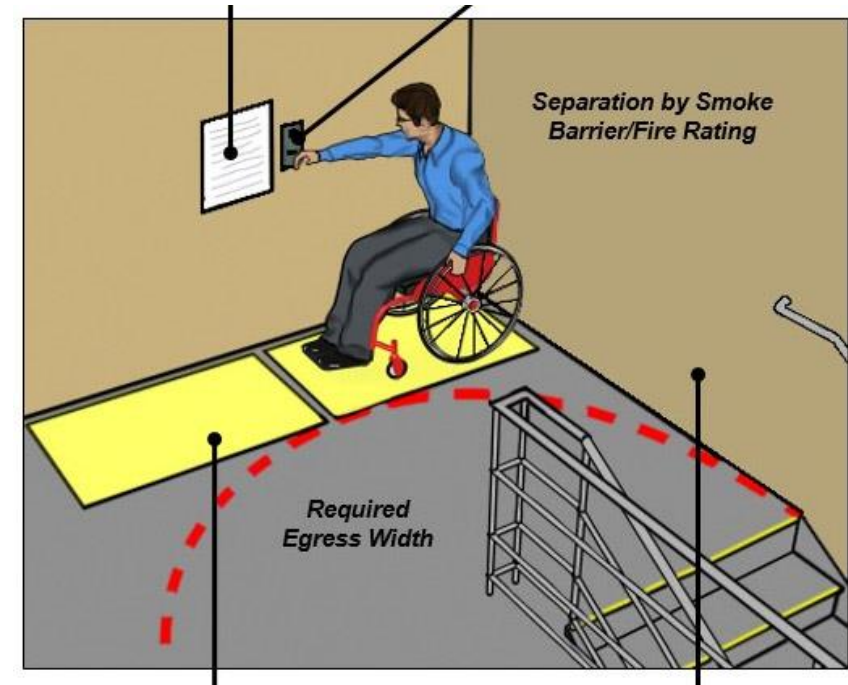
# Egressability

Equal Level of Life Safety for Everyone

Make all Ground Floor Exits Accessible, etc.

We do not support these recommendations because it concerns life safety.

Life Safety should be handled by the Building Code



# Questions?

Proposed Updates, April 2025



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