

Technical Memorandum 1

Overview of Existing ADAAG and PROWAG Bus Stop Guidelines

INTRODUCTION

The accessibility of transportation facilities, including bus stops, is regulated by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. The Act empowered the United States Access Board to develop and adopt specific accessibility guidelines. These guidelines, pertaining to transportation facilities are recorded in the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines that were adopted in 2006 and the Public Right-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines that were proposed in 2011.

The United States Access Board is an independent federal agency that supports equality for people with disabilities by developing accessibility guidelines and standards for the built environment, transit vehicles, telecommunications equipment, medical diagnostic equipment, and information technology. The U.S. Access Board also offers technical assistance and training on these requirements and accessible design and continues to enforce accessibility standards that cover federally funded facilities.

ADA ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES

After the passage of the 1990 Americans with Disability Act (ADA), the U.S. Access Board developed, and routinely updates, the ADA Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) that the United States Department of Justice (USDOJ) and the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) have adopted into enforceable standards. Municipalities are required to comply with the ADAAG when designing, building, and improving elements in the built environment; including bus stops, sidewalks and other pedestrian facilities. The ADAAG includes specific guidelines for various elements of transportation facilities under Section 810.

ADAAG Online Resource:

All of the information presented within this section is available online at the United States Access Board's website

<https://www.access-board.gov/guidelines-and-standards/transportation/facilities/ada-standards-for-transportation-facilities>

Bus Boarding and Alighting Areas

Bus boarding and alighting area guidelines are detailed under Section 810.2 of the ADAAG. The section includes four specific guidelines:

Surface	• Bus stop boarding and alighting areas shall have a firm and stable surface.
Dimension	• Bus stop boarding and alighting areas shall be at a minimum 96 inches long and 60 inches wide.
Connection	• Bus stop boarding and alighting areas shall be connected to streets, sidewalks, or pedestrian paths by an accessible route.
Slope	• If parallel to the roadway, the slope of the boarding and alighting area shall be the same as the roadway. If perpendicular to the roadway, the slope of the boarding and alighting area shall not be steeper than 1:48 (approx. 2%)

Figure 1-1: Example of an ADA Compliant Passenger Boarding and Alighting Area

