The purpose of these standards for construction in the public right-of-way is to ensure pedestrian safety and access.

Standards apply to City of Berkeley crews, Contractors with the City, and all others working in the right-of-way.

Each project is unique and requires thorough review to ensure complete, safe, usable and accessible paths of travel.

### 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.

- Pedestrian corridor shall be a nominal width of 6’ whenever feasible, and shall conform to ADAAG guidelines. It shall not be less than 48” wide at single point of contact or obstruction.
- 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 can obstruct blue curb 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 installation and removal will not damage existing pavement, curb and/or gutter.
- Ramps shall have a minimum 4’ wide walking surface and a slope not to exceed 8%.
- Ramps shall snugly meet existing surfaces without gaps. When required for drainage 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.

### Construction of Signposts, Barricades and Fencing

Barricades that are impenetrable 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.

- A-frames used for defining path of travel (not barricading trenches) shall be placed end-to-end without spacing, shall be connected and maintained to ensure stability to help a person who is blind negotiate a safe path while using a cane.
- Caution Tape shall NOT be used by itself to delineate the path of travel or create a barricade.
- Fencing material requires a minimum 3” height, solid, uninterrupted toe-board.
- Signposts, scaffolding and fencing supports shall be placed entirely outside the pedestrian path of travel, minimum 4’ wide and 80” 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 1/4” height, must be beveled at 45º.
- Closed trenches, temporary paving surfaces, walking surfaces, steel plates; etc. shall have a smoothly finished, firm walking surface made even w/surrounding walkways.
- Aisle or loading area adjacent to a parking space is part of the pedestrian corridor.

### 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. Traffic Engineer shall review any pedestrian access limitations and notification requirements for pedestrians with mobility or vision impairments.

- Paths of travel that DO NOT continue to the next corner or to a safe crosswalk shall be closed to pedestrian traffic. Signs a minimum of 36" x 36" must be posted stating the sidewalk is closed and detour pedestrians to accessible sidewalk.
- Pedestrian access corridors shall be clearly delineated with cones or barricades, 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.

### 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.
- After work is completed, surface of the pedestrian path shall be restored free from all ridges, gaps, bumps and rough edges.
- Construction that affects existing curb ramp shall include replacement or repair of the curb ramp to meet current City standards.

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**PLEASE NOTE:** City of Berkeley Engineers may stop work when any hazardous conditions are present.