

EXTERIOR PATHS OF TRAVEL

Exterior paths of travel, application

80.21 (1) This Part applies to newly constructed and redeveloped exterior paths of travel that are outdoor sidewalks or walkways designed and constructed for pedestrian travel and are intended to serve a functional purpose and not to provide a recreational experience.

(2) This Part does not apply to paths of travel regulated under Ontario Regulation 350/06 (Building Code) made under the *Building Code Act, 1992*.

Exterior paths of travel, general obligation

80.22 Obligated organizations, other than small organizations, shall ensure that any exterior paths of travel that they construct or redevelop and intend to maintain meet the requirements set out in this Part.

Exterior paths of travel, technical requirements

80.23 When constructing new or redeveloping existing exterior paths of travel that they intend to maintain, obligated organizations, other than small organizations, shall ensure that new and redeveloped exterior paths of travel meet the following requirements:

1. The exterior path must have a minimum clear width of 1,500 mm, but this clear width can be reduced to 1,200 mm to serve as a turning space where the exterior path connects with a curb ramp.
2. Where the head room clearance is less than 2,100 mm over a portion of the exterior path, a rail or other barrier with a leading edge that is cane detectable must be provided around the object that is obstructing the head room clearance.
3. The surface must be firm and stable.
4. The surface must be slip resistant.
5. Where an exterior path has openings in its surface,
 - i. the openings must not allow passage of an object that has a diameter of more than 20 mm, and
 - ii. any elongated openings must be oriented approximately perpendicular to the direction of travel.
6. The maximum running slope of the exterior path must be no more than 1:20, but where the exterior path is a sidewalk, it can have a slope of greater than 1:20, but it cannot be steeper than the slope of the adjacent roadway.

7. The maximum cross slope of the exterior path must be no more than 1:20, where the surface is asphalt, concrete or some other hard surface, or no more than 1:10 in all other cases.

8. The exterior path must meet the following requirements:

- i. It must have a 1:2 bevel at changes in level between 6 mm and 13 mm.
 - ii. It must have a maximum running slope of 1:8 or a curb ramp that meets the requirement of section 80.26 at changes in level of greater than 13 mm and less than 75 mm.
 - iii. It must have a maximum running slope of 1:10 or a curb ramp that meets the requirement of section 80.26 at changes in level of 75 mm or greater and 200 mm or less.
 - iv. It must have a ramp that meets the requirements of section 80.24 at changes in level of greater than 200 mm.
9. The entrance to the exterior path of travel must provide a minimum clear opening of 850 mm, whether the entrance includes a gate, bollard or other entrance design.

Exterior paths of travel, ramps

80.24 (1) Where an exterior path of travel is equipped with a ramp, the ramp must meet the following requirements:

- 1. The ramp must have a minimum clear width of 900 mm.
- 2. The surface of the ramp must be firm and stable.
- 3. The surface of the ramp must be slip resistant.
- 4. The ramp must have a maximum running slope of no more than 1:15.
- 5. The ramp must be provided with landings that meet the following requirements:
 - i. Landings must be provided,
 - A. at the top and bottom of the ramp,
 - B. where there is an abrupt change in direction of the ramp, and
 - C. at horizontal intervals not greater than nine metres apart.
 - ii. Landings must be a minimum of 1,670 mm by 1,670 mm at the top and bottom of the ramp and where there is an abrupt change in direction of the ramp.

iii. Landings must be a minimum of 1,670 mm in length and at least the same width of the ramp for an in-line ramp.

iv. Landings must have a cross slope that is not steeper than 1:50.

6. Where a ramp has openings in its surface,

i. the openings must not allow passage of an object that has a diameter of more than 20 mm, and

ii. any elongated openings must be oriented approximately perpendicular to the direction of travel.

7. A ramp must be equipped with handrails on both sides of the ramp and the handrails must,

i. be continuously graspable along their entire length and have circular cross-section with an outside diameter not less than 30 mm and not more than 40 mm, or any non-circular shape with a graspable portion that has a perimeter not less than 100 mm and not more than 155 mm and whose largest cross-sectional dimension is not more than 57 mm,

ii. be not less than 865 mm and not more than 965 mm high, measured vertically from the surface of the ramp, except that handrails not meeting these requirements are permitted provided they are installed in addition to the required handrail,

iii. terminate in a manner that will not obstruct pedestrian travel or create a hazard,

iv. extend horizontally not less than 300 mm beyond the top and bottom of the ramp,

v. be provided with a clearance of not less than 50 mm between the handrail and any wall to which it is attached, and

vi. be designed and constructed such that handrails and their supports will withstand the loading values obtained from the non-concurrent application of a concentrated load not less than 0.9 kN applied at any point and in any direction for all handrails and a uniform load not less than 0.7 kN/metre applied in any direction to the handrail.

8. Where the ramp is more than 2,200 mm in width,

i. one or more intermediate handrails which are continuous between landings shall be provided and located so that there is no more than 1,650 mm between handrails, and

ii. the handrails must meet the requirements set out in paragraph 7.

9. The ramp must have a wall or guard on both sides and where a guard is provided, it must,

- i. be not less than 1,070 mm measured vertically to the top of the guard from the ramp surface, and
- ii. be designed so that no member, attachment or opening located between 140 mm and 900 mm above the ramp surface being protected by the guard will facilitate climbing.

10. The ramp must have edge protection that is provided,

- i. with a curb at least 50 mm high on any side of the ramp where no solid enclosure or solid guard is provided, or
- ii. with railings or other barriers that extend to within 50 mm of the finished ramp surface.

(2) In this section,

“kN” means kilonewtons.

Exterior paths of travel, stairs

80.25 Where stairs connect to exterior paths of travel, the stairs must meet the following requirements:

1. The surface of the treads must have a finish that is slip resistant.
2. Stairs must have uniform risers and runs in any one flight.
3. The rise between successive treads must be between 125 mm and 180 mm.
4. The run between successive steps must be between 280 mm and 355 mm.
5. Stairs must have closed risers.
6. The maximum nosing projection on a tread must be no more than 38 mm, with no abrupt undersides.
7. Stairs must have high tonal contrast markings that extend the full tread width of the leading edge of each step.
8. Stairs must be equipped with tactile walking surface indicators that are built in or applied to the walking surface, and the tactile walking surface indicators must,
 - i. have raised tactile profiles,
 - ii. have a high tonal contrast with the adjacent surface,
 - iii. be located at the top of all flights of stairs, and
 - iv. extend the full tread width to a minimum depth of 610 mm commencing one tread depth from the edge of the stair.

9. Handrails must be included on both sides of stairs and must satisfy the requirements set out in paragraph 7 of subsection 80.24 (1).
10. A guard must be provided that is not less than 920 mm, measured vertically to the top of the guard from a line drawn through the outside edges of the stair nosings and 1,070 mm around the landings and is required on each side of a stairway where the difference in elevation between ground level and the top of the stair is more than 600 mm but, where there is a wall, a guard is not required on that side.

11. Where stairs are more than 2,200 mm in width,

- i. one or more intermediate handrails that are continuous between landings must be provided and located so there is no more than 1,650 mm between handrails, and
- ii. the handrails must satisfy the requirements set out in paragraph 7 of subsection 80.24 (1).

Exterior paths of travel, curb ramps

80.26 (1) Where a curb ramp is provided on an exterior path of travel, the curb ramp must align with the direction of travel and meet the following requirements:

1. The curb ramp must have a minimum clear width of 1,200 mm, exclusive of any flared sides.
2. The running slope of the curb ramp must,
 - i. be a maximum of 1:8, where elevation is less than 75 mm, and
 - ii. be a maximum of 1:10, where elevation is 75 mm or greater and 200 mm or less.
3. The maximum cross slope of the curb ramp must be no more than 1:50.
4. The maximum slope on the flared side of the curb ramp must be no more than 1:10.
5. Where the curb ramp is provided at a pedestrian crossing, it must have tactile walking surface indicators that,
 - i. have raised tactile profiles,
 - ii. have a high tonal contrast with the adjacent surface,
 - iii. are located at the bottom of the curb ramp,
 - iv. are set back between 150 mm and 200 mm from the curb edge,
 - v. extend the full width of the curb ramp, and

vi. are a minimum of 610 mm in depth.

(2) In this section,

“curb ramp” means a ramp that is cut through a curb or that is built up to a curb.

Exterior paths of travel, depressed curbs

80.27 (1) Where a depressed curb is provided on an exterior path of travel, the depressed curb must meet the following requirements:

1. The depressed curb must have a maximum running slope of 1:20.
2. The depressed curb must be aligned with the direction of travel.
3. Where the depressed curb is provided at a pedestrian crossing, it must have tactile walking surface indicators that,

- i. have raised tactile profiles,
- ii. have high tonal contrast with the adjacent surface,
- iii. are located at the bottom portion of the depressed curb that is flush with the roadway,
- iv. are set back between 150 mm and 200 mm from the curb edge, and
- v. are a minimum of 610 mm in depth.

(2) In this section,

“depressed curb” means a seamless gradual slope at transitions between sidewalks and walkways and highways, and is usually found at intersections.

Exterior paths of travel, accessible pedestrian signals

80.28 (1) Where new pedestrian signals are being installed or existing pedestrian signals are being replaced at a pedestrian crossover, they must be accessible pedestrian signals.

(2) Accessible pedestrian signals must meet the following requirements:

1. They must have a locator tone that is distinct from a walk indicator tone.
2. They must be installed within 1,500 mm of the edge of the curb.
3. They must be mounted at a maximum of 1,100 mm above ground level.
4. They must have tactile arrows that align with the direction of crossing.
5. They must include both manual and automatic activation features.

6. They must include both audible and vibro-tactile walk indicators.

(3) Where two accessible pedestrian signal assemblies are installed on the same corner, they must be a minimum of 3,000 mm apart.

(4) Where the requirements in subsection (3) cannot be met because of site constraints or existing infrastructure, two accessible pedestrian signal assemblies can be installed on a single post, and when this occurs, a verbal announcement must clearly state which crossing is active.

(5) In this section,

“pedestrian crossover” means a pedestrian crossover as defined in subsection 1 (1) of the *Highway Traffic Act*.

Exterior paths of travel, rest areas

80.29 When constructing new or redeveloping existing exterior paths of travel that they intend to maintain, obligated organizations, other than small organizations, shall consult on the design and placement of rest areas along the exterior path of travel and shall do so in the following manner:

1. The Government of Ontario, the Legislative Assembly, designated public sector organizations and large organizations must consult with the public and persons with disabilities.
2. Municipalities must also consult with their municipal accessibility advisory committees, where one has been established in accordance with subsection 29 (1) or (2) of the Act.

Exceptions, limitations

80.30 Where an exception is permitted to a requirement for an exterior path of travel, the exception applies solely,

- (a) to the particular requirement for which the exception is allowed and not to any other requirement that applies to the exterior path; and
- (b) to the portion of the exterior path for which it is claimed and not to the exterior path in its entirety.

Exceptions, general

80.31 Exceptions to the requirements that apply to exterior paths of travel are permitted where obligated organizations, other than small organizations, can demonstrate one or more of the following:

1. The requirements, or some of them, would likely affect the cultural heritage value or interest of a property identified, designated or otherwise protected under the *Ontario Heritage Act* as being of cultural heritage value or interest.
2. The requirements, or some of them, would affect the preservation of places set apart as National Historic Sites of Canada by the Minister of the Environment for Canada under the *Canada National Parks Act* (Canada).
3. The requirements, or some of them, would affect the national historic interest or significance of historic places marked or commemorated under the *Historic Sites and Monuments Act* (Canada).
4. The requirements, or some of them, might damage, directly or indirectly, the cultural heritage or natural heritage on a property included in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation's World Heritage List of sites under the *Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage*.
5. There is a significant risk that the requirements, or some of them, would adversely affect water, fish, wildlife, plants, invertebrates, species at risk, ecological integrity or natural heritage values, whether the adverse effects are direct or indirect.
6. It is not practicable to comply with the requirements, or some of them, because existing physical or site constraints prohibit modification or addition of elements, spaces or features, such as where increasing the width of the exterior path would narrow the width of the adjacent highway or locating an accessible pedestrian signal pole within 1,500 mm of the curb edge is not feasible because of existing underground utilities.