

BCA BC 15.0.3

1 April 2013

Building Plan & Management Group
Universal Design Department

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See Distribution List

Dear Sir/Madam

PUBLIC VIEWS SOUGHT ON REVISED CODE ON ACCESSIBILITY

The Accessibility Code Review Committee chaired by BCA was formed in October 2010 to review the *Code on Accessibility in the Built Environment 2007*. The committee comprising representatives from the relevant government agencies, the building industry and voluntary welfare organizations (see Annex A) aims to update the current Code to meet the needs of a wider spectrum of people. The key objectives of the review are:

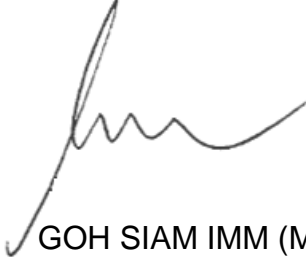
- a. To update the current Code in response to feedback and to meet the needs of the future;
- b. To enhance the provisions for persons with disabilities and older persons to support an inclusive society; and
- c. To incorporate new requirements for family-friendly features to support a pro-family nation.

2 The proposed key changes to the current Accessibility Code 2007 are listed in Annex B.

3 The [draft of the revised Code on Accessibility](#) will be open for public feedback with effect from **1st April 2013**. The Code Review Committee welcomes any feedback that you or your members may have on the draft Code. Your input would help the Committee to refine its recommendations before the revised Code is finalized for adoption.

4 The draft can be downloaded from BCA website www.bca.gov.sg. You may e-submit your feedback to bca_ud@bca.gov.sg or faxed to 63254437. All feedback or comments should reach the Committee on or before **30 April 2013** and attention to: The Chairperson, Accessibility Code Review Committee

Yours faithfully



GOH SIAM IMM (MS)
DIRECTOR
UNIVERSAL DESIGN DEPARTMENT
BUILDING PLAN & MANAGEMENT GROUP
for COMMISSIONER OF BUILDING CONTROL
BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY

MEMBERS OF THE CODE REVIEW COMMITTEE

1. Government Agencies

- a) Building and Construction Authority (BCA) – Chair
- b) Housing and Development Board (HDB)
- c) Land Transport Authority (LTA)
- d) National Parks Board (Nparks)

2. Educational Institution

- e) National University of Singapore (NUS)

3. Voluntary Welfare Organisations

- a) Disabled People's Association (DPA)
- b) Handicaps Welfare Association (HWA)
- c) Singapore Association for Occupational Therapists (SAOT)
- d) Singapore Association of the Visually Handicap (SAVH)
- e) The Singapore Action Group of Elders (SAGE)*

*Ceased operation in mid July 2012

4. Industry Players

- f) Real Estate Developers Association of Singapore (REDAS)
- g) Singapore Institute of Architects (SIA)

Proposed Key Changes to Accessibility Code 2007

NO	PROPOSED REVISION IN 2013 DRAFT CODE	PROVISION IN CURRENT 2007 CODE	REMARKS
1.0	FAMILY FRIENDLY FACILITIES		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandatory family friendly features such as lactation room, child-friendly facilities and family car parking lot at selected building types. These include transport interchanges, passenger terminals, sport complexes, public swimming pools, community club, theme parks, purpose built family amusement centre, large scale shopping and multipurpose complexes. <p><i>(Clause 6.9)</i></p>	Recommended design guidelines for family-friendly facilities. Not mandatory.	To support a pro-family nation.
2.0	ELDERLY FRIENDLY FACILITIES		
2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in number of ambulant disabled toilets for selected building types: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 ambulant disabled toilet in every 5 toilet compartment. <p><i>(Clause 5.1.4)</i></p>	1 number of ambulant disabled toilet provision for selected building types.	To support an ageing population.
2.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refinement of dimensions for urinal and water closet provision for ambulant disabled with additional illustrations for greater clarity. <p><i>(Clauses 5.4 and 5.5)</i></p>		Enhanced requirements to ensure clarity for compliance.
2.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refinement to the requirement to provide bathroom in residential unit to be easily retrofitted for elderly person and wheelchair users. <p><i>(Clause 7.3)</i></p>	Bathroom in residential unit to be retrofitted for elderly person when need arises.	Enhanced requirements to ensure clarity for compliance.

NO	PROPOSED REVISION IN 2013 DRAFT CODE	PROVISION IN CURRENT 2007 CODE	REMARKS
3.0	ACCESSIBILITY FOR HEARING IMPAIRED		
3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hearing enhancement system to be provided in buildings with function rooms, halls and auditoriums used for meetings, lectures, performances or films and in at least one of the public information/service counters for cinema, theatre, concert hall, stadium, museum, theme park, purpose built family amusement centre, transport station, interchange and passenger terminal. <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(Clause 6.8)</i></p>	No provision.	To cater to the needs of persons with hearing impairment and older persons using hearing aids.
4.0	ACCESSIBILITY FOR VISUAL IMPAIRED		
4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revised provision of tactile warning indicators to 'detectable warning surface' to warn of level changes. • Detectable warning surface to be provided for ramps where there is a change in level of more than 200mm. <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(Clause 4.5)</i></p>	Coloured bands or tactile warning indicators to be provided when change in level is between 15mm to 200mm.	To address the concern of tripping over tactile tiles.
4.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of Braille at ramps, staircases to indicate floor level and public toilets. <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(Clause 8.5.5.4)</i></p>	Not specified.	New requirement.
5.0	ACCESSIBLE ROUTES, CORRIDORS OR PATHS		
5.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wider corridor width of 1500 mm for building types such as residential development, hotels, service apartments, workers' dormitory, hostels, dormitories, schools, office buildings, factories, workshops, industrial buildings and office/showroom areas in warehouses. • Wider corridor width of 1800 mm for building types such as universities and similar institutions of learning, 	Minimum width is 1200 mm	In anticipation of the fast ageing population.

NO	PROPOSED REVISION IN 2013 DRAFT CODE	PROVISION IN CURRENT 2007 CODE	REMARKS
	<p>parks, open spaces and places of public resort, sport complexes and public swimming pools, MRT stations and bus interchanges, shopping centres and multipurpose complexes. markets, hawker or food centres, restaurants, hospitals, nursing homes, homes for the aged.</p> <p><i>(Clause 4.2.1)</i></p>		
5.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing buildings undergoing additions and alterations with existing site constraints may have corridor width of 1200 mm with the provision of passing space. <p><i>(Clause 4.2.1.2)</i></p>	New requirement.	
6.0	INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS		
6.1	<p>Differentiated requirements for different situations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Areas exempted from accessibility provision: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oil and gas/refinery/chemical industry Production areas which involved heavy machinery areas and ‘gowning regime’ (e.g. clean room) and etc. Area for warehousing and storage For flatted factory or industrial buildings for multiple users, at least one accessible toilet shall be provided at the common area of every level. <p><i>(Clause 2.3.11)</i></p>	All areas intended for access by employees or public.	<p>Differentiated requirement for different building types and functions.</p> <p>To address the concern of “over provision” and compliance costs.</p>
7.0	HOTELS AND BOARDING HOUSES		
7.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased in accessible room ratio. At least one in every 100 guestrooms or part thereof shall be accessible. This is to be provided in addition to the current requirement to provide 	<p>At least one in every 200 guestrooms or part thereof shall be accessible.</p> <p>In addition, one elder friendly room in every 50</p>	To support ‘Accessible Tourism’; current requirement is below international standard.

NO	PROPOSED REVISION IN 2013 DRAFT CODE	PROVISION IN CURRENT 2007 CODE	REMARKS
	<p>one elder friendly room in every 50 guestrooms.</p> <p><i>(Clause 2.3.3)</i></p>	<p>guestrooms.</p>	
8.0	ACCESSIBLE ROOM		
8.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Min provision of 1500 mm by 1500 mm clear space for wheelchair turning within a room. Entrances for selected building type to follow residential building provision. <p><i>(Clause 6.10)</i></p>	<p>Not specified.</p>	<p>To ensure clarity for compliance.</p> <p>Relaxed requirement.</p>
9.0	SERVICED APARTMENTS		
9.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least one in every 100 apartments unit to be accessible and all common areas to be accessible. <p><i>(Clause 2.3.4)</i></p>	<p>Service Apartments is not specifically mentioned in the current Code.</p>	<p>To support 'Medical Tourism'.</p>
10.0	WORKERS' DORMITORY		
10.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least one accessible room with an accessible toilet and shower facilities at 1st Storey level. <p><i>(Table 1 Item 17)</i></p>	<p>Not specified.</p>	<p>To ensure reasonable accommodation in the event that the worker/resident is temporarily hurt or disabled.</p>
11.0	PASSENGER ALIGHTING AND BOARDING POINT		
11.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least one alighting and boarding point, if provided, shall be sheltered. <p><i>(Clause 3.3)</i></p>	<p>Mentioned as good practice.</p>	<p>To cater to the needs of persons with disabilities, older persons and families in wet weather.</p>
12.0	DOOR WIDTH FOR ACCESSIBLE INDIVIDUAL / COMPARTMENT WASHROOM		
12.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 800 mm for straight-on approach. <p><i>(Clause 5.6.1)</i></p>	<p>Min 850 mm.</p>	<p>Relaxed to encourage the provision of sliding door.</p>

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13.0	RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT		
13.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjacent space fronting unit entrance is to be of non-structural element if there is difference in levels between entrance to the unit and abutting common area. This is to facilitate future ramp installation. • Ramp installation at unit entrance shall not be more than 250 mm in horizontal run length. Ramp to be located immediately at the door. <p><i>(Clause 7.2)</i></p>	Requirements to ensure that the apartment and at least one toilet can be easily retrofitted for an elderly or persons with disability when need arises is specified.	Enhanced requirement to ensure that in the event that a ramp is required to be built, there is adequate space without obstructing neighbours.
13.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Height of socket outlets in residential unit's kitchen not required to comply with height of controls and operating mechanism. <p><i>(Clause 7.4)</i></p>	Switches and socket outlets shall be provided at a height of between 450 mm and 1200 mm from the floor level.	In response to feedback on the difficulties to comply in kitchen.

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