

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION STATE OF GEORGIA

INTERDEPARTMENT CORRESPONDENCE

DATE August 18, 2014

FROM Russell R. McMurry, P.E., Chief Engineer

TO All Divisions

SUBJECT **ADA Requirement to provide Curb Ramps**

In 2013, the Federal Highway Administration and the US Department of Justice published joint technical guidance clarifying when the ADA requirement to provide accessible curb ramps was applicable to specific types of pavement treatments. The technical guidance classified the specific pavement treatments below as either “Alterations” or “Maintenance”. The lists are not all inclusive.

Alterations: addition of new layer of asphalt, mill & fill / mill & overlay, cape seals, hot in-place recycling, open-graded-surface-course, micro-surfacing / thin-lift-overlay, rehabilitation and reconstruction, new construction.

Maintenance: chip seals, fog seals, scrub sealing, crack filling and sealing, joint crack seals, slurry seals, diamond grinding, joint repairs, spot high-friction, treatments, dowel-bar retrofit, pavement patching, surface sealing.

The technical guidance confirms that alterations require the installation of curb ramps at the time of the improvement. Maintenance applications do not require curb ramps at the time of the improvement.

Therefore, any GDOT work or project classified as an “alteration” must install, repair or upgrade curb ramps within the scope of the work or the project. The need to install, repair or update curb ramps should be discussed during the early scoping phase of the work or the project, so that budgets and schedules reflect the requirement.

Refer to GDOT Construction Details A3 and A4 for design of ADA compliant curb ramps and detectable warning surface truncated domes. Details are located on the R.O.A.D.S. webpage at: http://standarddetails.dot.ga.gov/stds_dtls/edtls.jsp?Preview=no

This letter will be published on the R.O.A.D.S. webpage under *Policy Announcements*. This guidance and policy is published in the following Chapters of the *GDOT Design Policy Manual*:

- [Chapter 9.5.1](#) Pedestrian Accommodation Design; and
- [Chapter 11.1](#) Preventative Maintenance (PM), Resurfacing, Restoration, or Rehabilitation (3R), and Reconstruction Guidelines for Federal Aid Projects.

Should you have any questions, feel free to contact the Office of Design Policy and Support (Brent Story or Walt Taylor) at (404) 631-1978.

RRM:GSB:BAS:WDT