

ADA/City Standards for Sidewalks, Protruding Objects, and Vertical Clearance

Review for Projects in the Public Right of Way.

1. Sidewalks [§403.5]

2. Sidewalk width requirements exist to make sure sidewalks are adequate for use by individuals who use wheelchairs. The minimum width for an ADA-compliant sidewalk is 36 inches (3 feet), though sidewalks can be constructed wider than this. If sidewalks are less than 60 inches (5 feet) across, passing spaces must be constructed at set intervals. These passing spaces must measure at least 60 inches on all sides, and must be located at least every 200 feet.

3. Protruding Objects [§204]

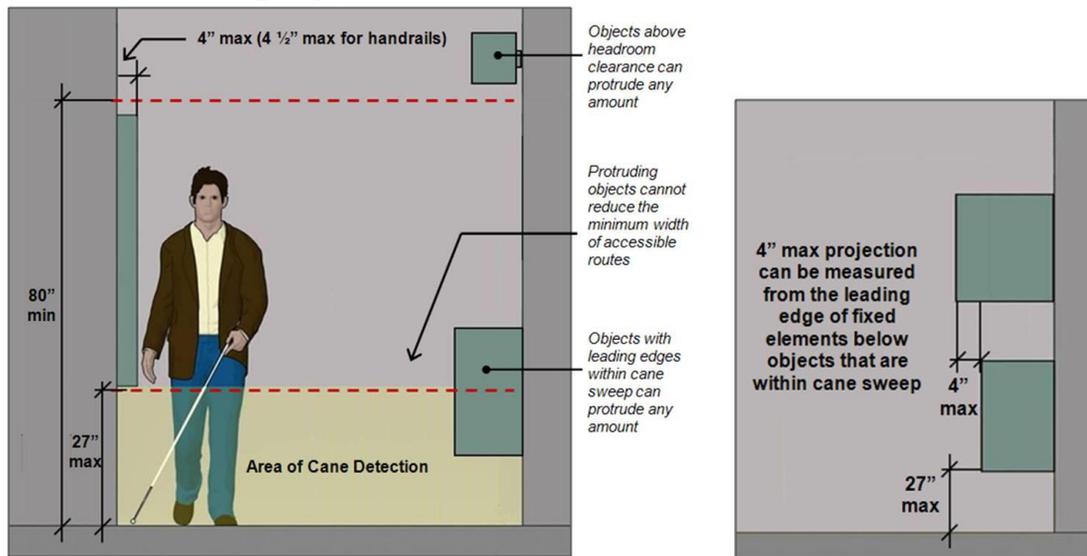
4. To prevent hazards to people with vision impairments, the standards limit the projection of objects into circulation paths. These requirements apply to all circulation paths and are not limited to accessible routes. Circulation paths include exterior walks, paths, courtyards, platform lifts, ramps, stairways, and landings.

Examples of Protruding Objects

5. Protrusion Limits [§307.2]

6. People with vision impairments often travel closely along walls which can provide way-finding cues sometime called a "shoreline." Objects mounted on walls, partitions, columns, and other elements along circulation paths can pose hazards unless their projection is limited. Those with leading edges that are within cane sweep (27" high maximum) or that provide minimum headroom clearance (80" minimum) do not pose hazards and can protrude any amount.

Limits of Protruding Objects



7.

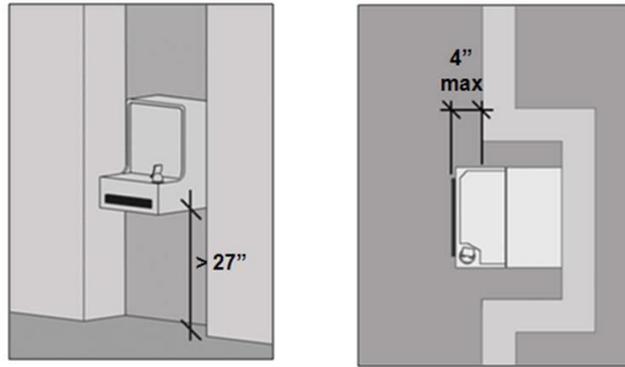
8. Location Above Detectable Elements

9. Objects located above elements that are within cane sweep can protrude 4" maximum from the leading edge of such elements provided that any required reach or clear floor space is not obstructed.

Recessed Objects

10. Objects can be recessed in alcoves so that they do not project more than 4" into circulation paths. Alcoves must be sized to accommodate required clear floor space at accessible elements.

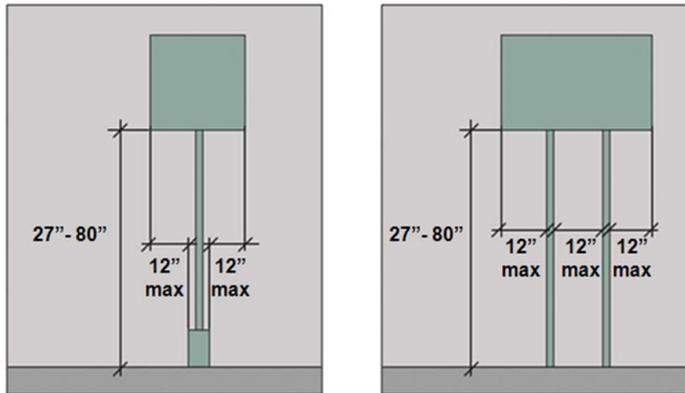
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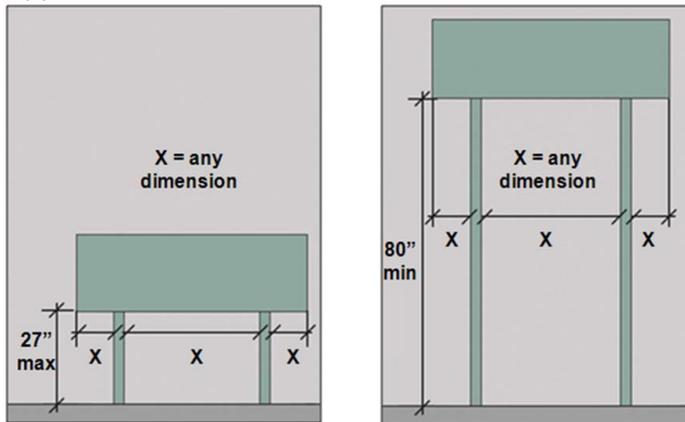
11. A recessed element, must provide a knee clearance of at least 27". If located to provide, but not exceed this clearance (27" above the floor or ground absolute), they are not protruding objects because the leading edge will be within cane detection.

12. Post-Mounted Objects [§307.3] (Most Art Work Fits Under This)

13. Free-standing objects with leading edges 27" to 80" high that are mounted on posts or pylons cannot protrude more than 12" into circulation paths. The 12" limit also applies to the clearance between multiple posts (excluding the sloping portions of handrails).



14.
 15. Objects with leading edges 27" maximum or above 80" can protrude any amount from posts or pylons.



- 16.

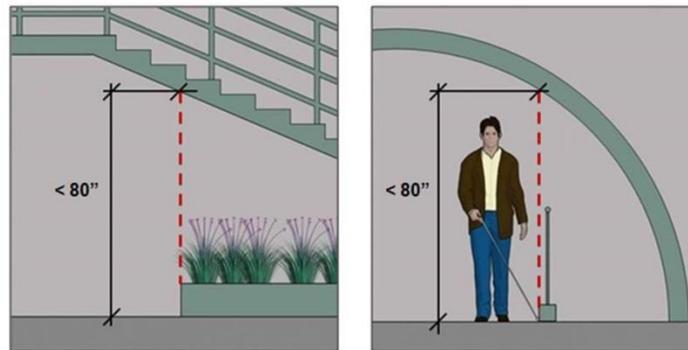
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17. Vertical Clearance [[§307.4](#)]

18. Headroom clearance of at least 80" high is required along all circulation paths.

19. Fixed barriers, such as guardrails, are required where the vertical clearance is less than 80" such as at open stairways and along sloped or curved walls. Barriers must have leading edges no higher than 27" so that they are within cane sweep. Fixed planters, benches, and other elements can be used instead of guardrails.

20. Barriers at Circulation Areas with Reduced Vertical Clearance



Reduced Clearance Below Stairway

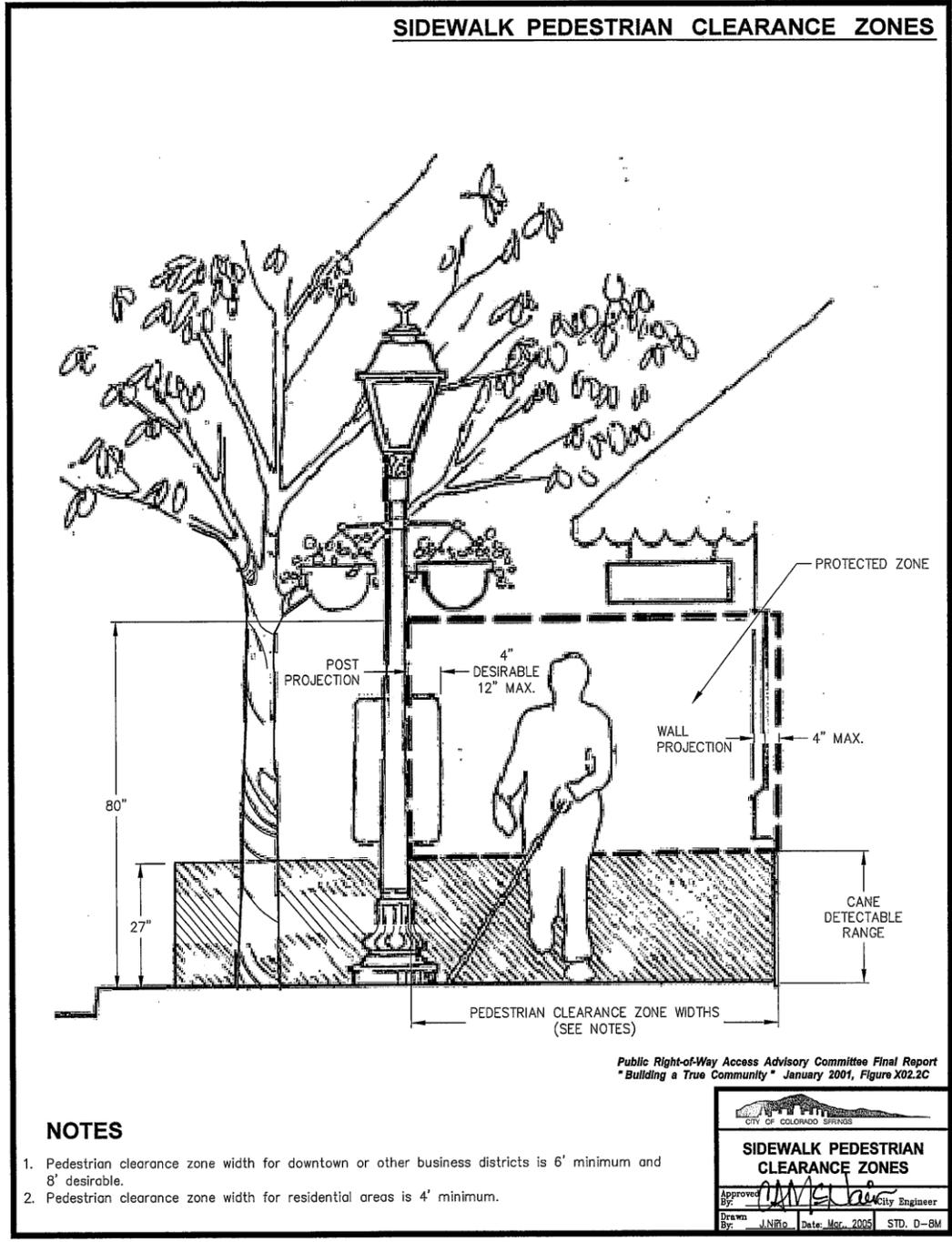
Clearance Reduced at Curved (or Sloped Walls)



Recommendation: A minimum height is not specified for barriers demarcating areas with less than 80" of vertical clearance. It is recommended that barriers be high enough so that they are not mistaken for a step or other change in level and do not pose a tripping hazard. It is suggested a barrier be at least 12", with 18" being preferable.

<http://www.access-board.gov/guidelines-and-standards/buildings-and-sites/about-the-ada-standards/guide-to-the-ada-standards/chapter-3-protruding-objects>

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Pedestrian Clearance Zone meets or exceeds ADA Standards. The sidewalk standard exceeds the Title II ADA minimum requirements. The Protruding Objects / Vertical Clearance meets/equals Title II ADA minimum requirements.

Information taken from the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design, US Access Board & Colorado Springs Index of Standard Drawings – Drawing D 8m.