

GEORGIA STATE FINANCING AND INVESTMENT COMMISSION CONSTRUCTION DIVISION

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INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: The State Fire Marshal

From: State ADA Coordinator's Office

Subject: Technical Assistance for Georgia Accessibility Code: The 2010 ADA Standards for

Accessible Design

Date: Revised April 2015

Detectable Warnings (Section 218 Transportation Facilities)

Question: What is the standard to be used for detectable warnings in Georgia and how and where should they be located?

Answer: When the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design were adopted in March of 2012 by our state, there have been substantial changes to the requirements for Detectable Warnings on "private property". Detectable Warnings are now only required for Transportation Facilities as defined in Sections 218 and 810 and specifically under 810.5.2 Detectable Warnings which references Section 705 for specific design criteria.

However, there is a new document entitled "Public Rights of Way Accessibility Guidelines" (PROWAG) which has been published on the "Federal Register" and should be used by Design Professionals, and State and Local Government Officials when designs are undertaken to public roads/streets/sidewalks/shared-use-paths. (See §208 of http://www.access-board.gov/guidelines-and-standards/streets-sidewalks/shared-use-paths/supplemental-notice)

Also where property is being developed with roads and sidewalks that will eventually be deeded to the state or local governments or counties for future maintenance, PROWAG should be used. Government entities have Title II obligations to ensure the property they own that meets the definition of a "public building" is accessible to and usable by people with disabilities.

It is also recommended that Detectable Warnings be used at curb ramps where accessible routes cross roadways, like loop roads around college campuses or shopping centers where traffic speeds resemble that of public roads.

The State of Georgia ADA Coordinator=s Office provides this information to assist the Commissioner of Insurance and State Fire Marshal in administering interpretative guidance for the Georgia Accessibility Code. However, it does not constitute a legal interpretation or legal advice.