

Texas Accessibility Standards

Technical Memorandum

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation Architectural Barriers

Issue Date: June 30, 2008

TM 08-01

Curb Ramps – Surface Texture/Contrast Administrative Rule 68.102(b)(2) and TAS 4.7.4

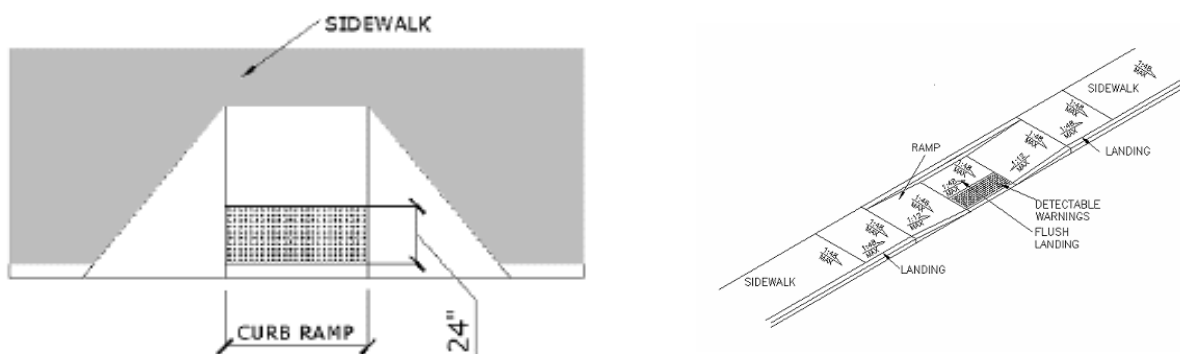
The ONLY surface texture TDLR is currently aware of that meets the intent of both the Texas Accessibility Standards and the currently enforceable federal Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines are detectable warnings (aka truncated domes) meeting the technical specifications of TAS 4.29.2.

With the intention of harmonizing both state and federal requirements, the Department issues the following technical clarifications regarding surface texture requirements at curb ramps.

Curb Ramps in the Public Right-of-Way

All curb ramps constructed, renovated, modified, or altered within the public right-of-way must comply with Architectural Barriers Administrative Rule 68.102(b)(2).

In accordance with Administrative Rules 68.102 and TAS 2.2, the Department is allowing the detectable warning surface to be a minimum of 24" in depth (in the direction of pedestrian travel) in lieu of the full depth of the curb ramp. The deviation from this particular technical requirement does not require a variance. The truncated domes must still extend the full width of the curb ramp (or landing as applicable at parallel curb ramps) and comply with TAS 4.29.2. Therefore the requirements set forth in TAS 4.7.4(1) & (2) will not apply. Reference illustrations below:



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Curb Ramps NOT in the Public Right-of-Way

All curb ramps that are constructed, renovated, modified, or altered, but are NOT within the public right-of-way must comply with TAS 4.7.

The detectable warning surface must extend the full width and depth of the curb ramp (or landing as applicable at parallel curb ramps). The Department strongly encourages the use of truncated domes complying with TAS 4.29.2 as a means to satisfy both the state and federal requirements in lieu of the surface textures listed under TAS 4.7.4(1). The requirements set forth in TAS 4.7.4(2) will also apply to the full width and depth of the curb ramp (or landing) as applicable.

This technical memorandum supersedes TM 99-15 issued in July 1999 and which is no longer effective.

Any previously issued TM related to TAS 4.7.4 is still applicable for these curb ramps; however, it is important to note that simply satisfying the requirements of TAS does not alleviate compliance with federal law.