

Pursuant to the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the 2010 ADA Standards (2010 ADAs), Public Works requires curb ramp upgrades/replacement when there is new construction or alteration of the roadway adjacent to the intersection.



San Francisco Public Works

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Processing Hours: 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM
Monday through Friday

Curb Ramp

Guidelines for the evaluation
and construction of new curb ramps





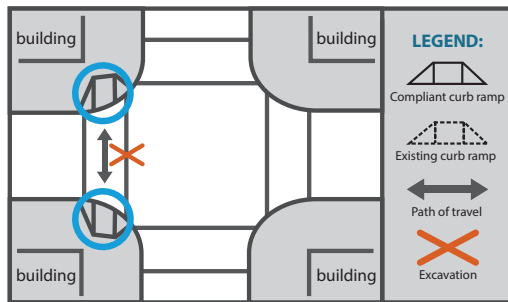
1. WHEN ARE CURB RAMPS REQUIRED?

The evaluation and construction of new curb ramps or reconstruction/upgrade of existing curb ramps are required when:

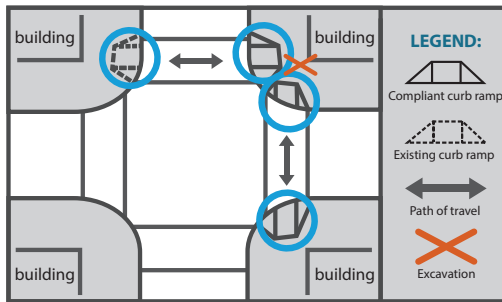
A. Excavation within the crosswalk: If curb ramps do not exist or existing curb ramps are not constructed per current Public Works Standards, the excavator shall construct curb ramps necessary to complete the path of travel across the affected crosswalk.

B. Excavation at the angular return: If curb ramps do not exist or existing curb ramps are not constructed to current Public Works Standards, then the excavator shall construct curb ramps. In addition, the excavator shall evaluate the two connecting angular returns to complete the paths of travel. If connecting curb ramps do not exist on the connecting angular returns, the excavator shall construct connecting curb ramps necessary to complete the paths of travel across the crosswalk.

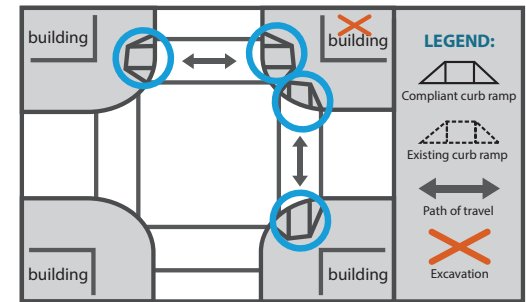
C. Building construction affecting the angular return: If curb ramps do not exist or existing curb ramps are not constructed to current Public Works Standards, the developer / property owner shall construct curb ramps. In addition, the developer / property owner also shall be required to evaluate the connecting angular returns to complete the paths of travel. If a compliant curb ramp does not exist on the connecting angular return, the developer / property owner shall construct a compliant curb ramp necessary to complete the paths of travel and restripe the crosswalks.



Excavation within the crosswalk



Excavation at the angular return



Building construction affecting the angular return

If a ramp is required under A, B or C, then the curb ramp design needs to allow for the future construction of a second curb ramp at the return.

2. WHY ARE THEY REQUIRED?

The Federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the 2010 ADA Standards require curb ramp upgrades/replacements when there is new construction or alteration of the roadway adjacent to the intersection. Public Works policy requires that upon performing any excavation within a marked or unmarked crosswalk within the public right of way, all affected curb ramps shall be evaluated and/or reconstructed/upgraded per current Public Works Standards. Public Works Order No. 184,350 with an effective date of January 1, 2016, provides guideline details.

3. HOW DO I APPLY?

In Person: 1155 Market Street, 3rd Floor

Email: bsmpermitdivision@sfdpw.org

Submit civil drawings of existing conditions and proposed improvements.

Please be aware that plans may require revisions upon review.

4. EXCEPTIONS:

A. In locations where a fully compliant curb ramp is infeasible, evaluation will be made to determine if a non-compliant accessibility improvement is possible.

B. Replacing a surface-mounted facility within its existing footprint as part of routine maintenance and repair is exempt from curb ramp construction.

C. A declared emergency excavation that results in 1,000 square feet or less of excavation.

D. Excavation that results in 50 square feet or less of excavation.