

**EXHIBIT W**  
**Acceptable Deviations to the  
 2013 Outdoor Developed Areas Amendments to the  
 Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Guidelines**

The Department will continue to develop accessible trails pursuant to the technical requirements in the 2013 Outdoor Developed Areas Amendments to the Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Guidelines. These guidelines provide two (2) exceptions to the technical requirements in Section 1017 of the 2013 Outdoor Developed Areas Amendments. When the Department determines that a condition exists that does not permit full compliance with a specific provision, Exception 1 to Section 1017.1 allows it to comply with the specific provisions of Section 1017 to the extent practicable. The Department will apply this exception when appropriate, and adhere to the following agreed upon Acceptable Deviations as the standard for what is practicable. When one or more of the Acceptable Deviations has been applied to a trail pursuant to Exception 1, the trail shall be referred to as an Improved Access Trail. Improved Access Trails will be made fully compliant between trail segments that deviate from the technical requirements. However, if conditions exist along a trail that cannot be made compliant according to the agreed upon Acceptable Deviations, the Department will follow Exception 2 to Section 1017.1, which allows it to exempt the entire trail from compliance with Section 1017. In addition, the Department will utilize the agreed upon trail matrix when considering all the deviations required on a particular trail and exempt the entire trail from compliance with Section 1017 if its rating value exceeds 100 points.

**Acceptable Deviations**

- **Clear Tread Width.** The clear tread width of trails shall be 28 inches (711 mm) minimum for a length of 60 inches (1525 mm) maximum provided that reduced width segments are separated by segments that are 48 inches (1220 mm) long minimum and 36 inches (915 mm) wide minimum.
- **Tread Obstacles.** Tread obstacles in all surfaces shall not exceed 4 inches (101.6 mm) in height measured vertically to the highest point.
- **Running Slope.** The running slope of any segment of a trail shall not be steeper than 1:8 (12.5%). Where the running slope of a segment of a trail is steeper than 1:20 (5%) the maximum length of the segment shall be in accordance with Table IAT 01.

**Table IAT 01**

| <b>Running Slope of Trail Segment</b> |                             | <b>Max Length of Segment<br/>Between Resting Intervals</b> |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Steeper than</b>                   | <b>But not Steeper than</b> |  |
| 1:20 (5%)                             | 1:12 (8%)                   | 400 feet (61 m)  |
| 1:12 (8%)                             | 1:10 (10%)                  | 100 feet (31 m)  |
| 1:10 (10%)                            | 1:8 (12.5%)                 | 50 feet (16 m)   |

- **Cross Slope.** The cross slope on all new and existing surfaces shall not be steeper than 1:20 (5%).
- **Protruding Objects.** Protruding objects above the trail corridor surface shall not be less than 75 inches (1905 mm) from the trail surface for a length of 10 feet (3048 mm) maximum.
- **Steps.** Where steps are constructed to navigate short steep sections or over major obstacles, they shall be constructed as per the standards defined in the Department Trails Handbook. The total vertical rise should not exceed 72 inches (1829 mm). Resting intervals shall be placed at the top, bottom, and at every 36 inches (915 mm) of vertical rise. Resting intervals shall comply with Section 1017.8. Steps shall have the upper approach and all treads marked by a high visual contrast stripe. The stripe shall be 2 inches (51 mm) wide placed parallel to, and not more than 1 inch (25 mm) from, the nose of the step or upper approach. The stripe shall extend the full width of the step or upper approach. Signage installed near the trailhead shall alert visitors that steps are located on the trail. Such signage will comply with the State Parks Access Guidelines for signage.

A hand gripping surface composed of wood, metal, or plastic shall be provided with the top of the gripping surface at 34 to 38 inches (864 to 965 mm) above the nosing of the treads of the steps. The width of the hand gripping surface shall be 2¼ inches (57.15 mm) or less. For hand gripping surfaces constructed of wood or plastic, the top of the hand gripping surface shall: a) rise a minimum of 2 inches (51 mm) above each post; b) be made of a continuous material; and c) extend a minimum of 12 inches (304.8 mm) beyond the upper approach, and 12 inches (304.8 mm) beyond the lowest step. Hand gripping surfaces constructed of metal shall extend a minimum of 12 inches (304.8 mm) beyond the upper approach, and 12 inches (304.8 mm) beyond the lowest step; both at an angle parallel to the trail surface.

**Trailhead Parking.** If an area at the trailhead can be made to comply with the following minimum requirements, then the Department will continue to evaluate the trail for access improvements pursuant to the technical provisions.

**Parking Area.** There shall be at least one parking space that is a minimum 168 inches (4268 mm) wide and a minimum 216 inches (5487 mm) in length. The parking and adjacent access spaces will not be striped as accessible but will be identified as improved access.

**Surface Material.** The surface material of parking area shall be firm and stable to match the existing trail surface.

**Slope.** Surface slopes of parking areas shall be kept to a minimum for surface water drainage and shall not exceed 3% in any direction within the dimensions of the parking space.

**Trail Matrix**

The following matrix shall be completed to calculate a rating value for each 1/2 mile section of trail that the Department evaluates for access improvements, beginning at the location of the first obstacle encountered for which an acceptable deviation is planned. If the total calculated rating value for a 1/2 mile section exceeds 100 points, the proposed trail or section of trail shall be exempt from access improvements.

| Deviation                                | Point Values | Quantity | Rating |
|--|--------------|----------|--------|
| Each Clear Tread Width Section           | 20           |          |        |
| Each Tread Obstacle                      | 10           |          |        |
| Each Running Slope Section (1:20 – 1:12) | 5            |          |        |
| Each Running Slope Section (1:12 – 1:10) | 10           |          |        |
| Each Running Slope Section (1:10 – 1:8)  | 15           |          |        |
| Each Cross Slope Section                 | 15           |          |        |
| Each Protruding Object                   | 15           |          |        |
| Each Step Section                        | 50           |          |        |
| <b>Totals</b>                            |              |          |        |