



CITY OF ROCKINGHAM

STATEMENT OF PLANNING POLICY NO. 2.3

DEVELOPMENT CONSIDERATIONS FOR DISABLED PERSONS

PART 1 - STATEMENT OF INTENT

Members of the community have temporary or permanent restrictions to their general mobility which can often cause anxiety, frustration and discomfort in being confronted with unusable, inaccessible and dangerous facilities.

Accessibility is not only an issue of concern for people in wheelchairs. Frail elderly people, parents with prams, women in later stages of pregnancy, others recovering from temporary disabilities and many others require good access.

It is Council's intention to ensure that all development is designed to accommodate persons with disabilities such that good access is provided.

Council's Building Department assess applications for Building Licenses under Part D3 (Access for People with Disabilities) of the Building Code of Australia (1996) which mostly relates to internal access and facilities within a building and its immediate surrounds.

It is considered that ease of access, external to the building, should be provided for at the initial stages of design of the development. This is best achieved at the planning approval stage and this Policy endeavours to list those matters that will be considered during a planning assessment.

Further technical information on access for the disabled can be obtained from the following Standards Association of Australia:-

- AS 1428.1 Design for Access and Mobility
- AS 2890.1 Off Street Parking

PART 2 - POLICY STATEMENT

1. Assessment of Applications

When assessing commercial development applications for buildings and facilities to be used by the general public Council shall, amongst other matters, take into consideration the provisions made for disabled persons with relation to carparking, pathways, ramps, steps, signs and lighting.

2. Carparking

Car parking bays for disabled persons shall include the following design features:-

- (a) A parking space shall consist of an unobstructed area having a sealed, plane surface.

- (b) The parking space width shall be not less than 3.2m.
- (c) Parking spaces shall be located close to the Principal Public Entrance or to a wheelchair accessible lift of the building it serves.
- (d) A continuous, accessible path of travel shall be provided between each parking space and the Principal Building Entrance to the building or to a wheelchair accessible lift.
- (e) Parking spaces shall be identified by a sign incorporating the international symbol of access for people with disabilities.

3. Disabled Parking Provision

The provision of parking bays for disabled persons is to be provided in accordance with Table One, attached to the Policy. The Table recommends a percentage range of the overall number of bays that should be set aside for disabled persons based on the type of landuse. The lowest percentage of the range is the recommended minimum. Where deemed necessary by Council, upon considering the likely need for disabled parking spaces, the higher recommended percentages may be required.

4. Pathways

Dedicated access routes for the disabled are not desired, however, those access routes provided for the general public must include the following design features:-

- (a) The camber and crossfall of the walkway shall not exceed 1:40 metres.
- (b) A maximum gradient of 1:20 metres.
- (c) A minimum width of 1.0 metre.
- (d) The surface shall be adequately sealed and non-slip.

5. Other Features

Other features such as steps, ramps, handrails, entrances, public utilities and amenities should be provided in accordance with the relevant Australian Standard.

TABLE ONE

PROVISION OF PARKING SPACES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Type of Facility	Recommended Number of Disabled Spaces
<p><i>Retail/Commercial</i> A shopping area with or without commercial premises (banks, credit unions, restaurants, offices), or an office area. Includes strip shopping centres or CBD areas, shopping complexes, supermarkets, variety stores. May include post office, entertainment, community, recreation venues and the like. <i>Tourist facilities</i></p>	<p>1-2 percent</p>
<p><i>Transport</i> Railway stations, bus/rail or tram/rail interchanges</p>	<p>1-3 percent</p>
<p><i>Community</i> Civic centres, town halls, community centres, senior citizens' clubs, health care <i>Recreation</i> Leisure centres, gymnasiums, swimming pools, parks, gardens, foreshore, sporting venues</p>	<p>2-3 percent (see Note 1)</p>
<p><i>Education</i> Schools Tertiary institutions</p>	<p>2-3 percent (see Note 2) 2 percent (see Note 2)</p>
<p><i>Entertainment</i> Theatres, libraries, art galleries, sports centres, entertainment centres</p>	<p>3-4 percent (see Note 1)</p>
<p><i>Medical</i> Hospitals Medical centres (including community health centres, radiology clinics, rehabilitation units)</p>	<p>3-4 percent 3 percent (see Note 3)</p>
<p><i>Post Office</i> Usually combined with retail/commercial</p>	<p>See Note 1</p>
<p><i>Religious Centre</i> Individual churches or religious centres</p>	<p>See Note 3</p>

NOTES:

1. Where a facility of this type is located in a retail/commercial area, at least one space should be located close to that facility to maximise convenience for users of the parking space.

2. For all schools, TAFE, CAE or other institutions with limited parking facilities, disabled spaces should be provided on request where justified. Two percent can be taken as a general guide. This would usually be appropriate to tertiary institutions with large carparks.
3. To be provided as needed in consultation with management of Centre or Church.

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