



Stage 2 Reforms of the Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002



Infrastructure access paths: Continuous accessibility on access paths

The requirements for continuous accessibility in the Transport Standards reference a dated Australian Standard, and are not aligned with the Premises Standards. As a result, operators may face difficulty negotiating outcomes that satisfy both the Transport Standards and the Premises Standards. There is an opportunity to provide standalone requirements for continuous accessibility on access paths that are more closely aligned with the Premises Standards, whilst maintaining the rights of people with disability.

Reform options

Maintain current requirements in the Transport Standards

Transport Standards Section 2.2 *Continuous accessibility*, of the Transport Standards would remain unchanged and no new guidance would be issued.

Non-regulatory option

Guidance would be updated to include advice on continuous accessibility to encourage the maintenance of continuous accessibility to and within public transport nodes. Guidance may be based on Section DP1 of the Premises Standards.

Specific guidance may include:

- Where access paths should be provided, such as between transport nodes
- Access path design
- Who is responsible for access paths
- Easy identification of access paths
- Operators and providers can refer to the Australian Human rights Commission's Advisory Note on *streetscape, public outdoor areas, fixtures, fittings and furniture*¹

¹ Australian Human Rights Commission, *Advisory Note on streetscape, public outdoor areas, fixtures, fittings and furniture*, 9 December 2021, <https://humanrights.gov.au/our-work/disability-rights/publications/advisory-note-streetscape-public-outdoor-areas-fixtures>

The advisory text would pertain to premises (except premises to which the Premises Standards apply), and infrastructure (except airports that do not accept regular public transport services).

Regulatory option

Transport Standards Section 2.2 would be amended to include the following (including any requirements retained or amended from the status quo):

- Access paths must be provided to enable passengers to:
 - Approach the premises or infrastructure from any accessible car parking spaces associated with the premises or infrastructure.
 - Enter the premises or infrastructure from adjoining public streets or walkways, and from associated public transport premises or infrastructure.
 - Enter the premises or infrastructure from any connected premises or infrastructure.
 - Access public spaces and accessible facilities within the premises or infrastructure.
- Access paths must:
 - Be designed to enable identification of access paths at appropriate locations which are easy to find.
 - Comply with AS1428.2 (1992) Clause 7(e)

These requirements would apply to premises (except premises to which the Premises Standards apply) and infrastructure (except airports that do not accept regular public transport services).

The Transport Standards Guidelines and / The Whole Journey Guide would be updated to reflect the new requirements.

Have your say

Public consultation on the Stage 2 reform of the Transport Standards will open from 15 March to 9 August 2022.

For further information:

- **Website:** <https://www.infrastructure.gov.au>
- **Call:** 1800 621 372
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- **Survey:** [tps://edm.infrastructure.gov.au/survey.php?sid=28667&name=continuous-accessibility-on-access-paths](https://edm.infrastructure.gov.au/survey.php?sid=28667&name=continuous-accessibility-on-access-paths)