

MEDC - Universal Design Guidelines 2.0 (21.9.2022 edition)

Type of Facility or Amenity	Collaborative Universal Design/Inclusive Design Considerations	Top Recommendations	Mathison & Mathison Universal Design/Inclusive Design Considerations	Progressive AE Universal Design/Inclusive Design Considerations	Spark 43 Architects Universal Design/Inclusive Design Considerations
Sidewalks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessible routes should be paved between all the attractions and public features of the property. • Sidewalk material should be slip-resistant (broom-finished concrete/etc.). • Sidewalks near the designated accessible parking spaces should be flush with the parking lot surface. • Contrasting colored concrete should be used to identify circulation pathways and areas that should be kept clear. • Seating options should be provided along long paths of travel. • Lighting should be provided along path. Intense overhead lighting should be avoided, to limit glare. • All crosswalks should be clearly marked (repainted seasonally). • Sidewalk curb edges should contrast with the sidewalk concrete and asphalt. • Sidewalk surfaces should not have reflective or glossy decorative elements, to limit glare. • Shade trees or similar cover should be dispersed along the routes. • Trees on sidewalks should be marked to contrast with concrete and buildings. • Slopes should be 5% grade or less. • Where slopes over 5% grade are unavoidable, ramps with 8.33% grade or shallower should be provided, with edge protection, handrails, landings, and respite areas. • Directional signage and wayfinding aids should be provided to each of the attractions and public features of the property. • 6'-0" clear path to be maintained along sidewalk in a straight line (cafe tables, A-frame signs, displays to be located outside of clear path); Path should be parallel to building storefronts. • Depending on traffic level, bus shelters should be provided for protection from inclement weather to be provided 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Sidewalks near the designated accessible parking spaces should be flush with the parking lot surface. 2 Seating options should be provided along long paths of travel. 3 All crosswalks should be clearly marked (repainted seasonally). 4 Sidewalk surfaces should not have reflective or glossy decorative elements, to limit glare. 5 Shade trees or similar cover should be dispersed along the routes. 6 6'-0" clear path to be maintained along sidewalk in a straight line (cafe tables, A-frame signs, displays to be located outside of clear path); Path should be parallel to building storefronts. 7 Directional signage and wayfinding aids should be provided to each of the attractions and public features of the property. 			
Crosswalks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designs and street art should not be placed within the crosswalk. • Raised crosswalks may be used to regulate traffic speed and provide a ramp-less accessible route across a street. • Perpendicular-style curb ramps should be used, and tactile warning plates should squarely face the curb ramp opposite the street. Where diagonal curb ramps are unavoidable, combination curb ramps may be used. • Tactile warning plates should contrast with sidewalk surface (Black is not acceptable). • Depending on traffic level, audible and Visual indicators should be provided at crosswalks (Ped Countdown, etc.) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Designs and street art should not be placed within the crosswalk. 2 Perpendicular-style curb ramps should be used, and tactile warning plates should squarely face the curb ramp opposite the street. Where diagonal curb ramps are unavoidable, combination curb ramps may be used. 3 Tactile warning plates should contrast with sidewalk surface (Black is not acceptable). 4 Depending on traffic level, audible and Visual indicators should be provided at crosswalks (Ped Countdown, etc.) 			
Trail Connections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trail features (length of trails, grade changes, etc) should be clearly posted at the entrances to the trails. Audible and visual/tactile iconography, simplified graphics, and cues can be provided. • Trail surfaces materials should be firm and stable. • Transitions between trail surfaces materials should be Zero Step and flush. • Gates controlling vehicular access (depending on trail size) should allow appropriately sized pedestrian paths around gates • Trail routes should be 60-inches or wider. Trail routes should be 96-inches or wider where there are multiple directions of traffic. • Lighting should be provided along path. Intense overhead lighting should be avoided, to limit glare. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Trail features (length of trails, grade changes, etc) should be clearly posted at the entrances to the trails. Audible and visual/tactile iconography, simplified graphics, and cues can be provided. 2 Gates controlling vehicular access (depending on trail size) should allow appropriately sized pedestrian paths around gates 3 Trail routes should be 60-inches or wider. Trail routes should be 96-inches or wider where there are multiple directions of traffic. 			
Gathering/Respite Areas and Elements: Pavilions, Tables, Benches, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benches and accessible seating are on firm stable and level surfaces, and connect to sidewalks and accessible routes. • Tables with roll-under clearance are present. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Benches and accessible seating are on firm stable and level surfaces, and connect to sidewalks and accessible routes. 2 Grills and information boards should be directly adjacent to firm stable and level clear floor spaces. 			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grills and information boards should be directly adjacent to firm stable and level clear floor spaces. • Where multiple grills are present, multiple heights should be provided. • Benches, tables, walls, pillars should contrast with concrete and turf. • Benches with companion spaces should be present. • Drinking fountains should be provided with firm, level, and stable clear floor spaces. The fountains should be marked to contrast with surroundings. • Waste receptacle should be provided with a firm, level, and stable clear floor spaces. The receptacles should be marked to contrast with surroundings. • Shades or similar are provided to provide cover from intense sunlight. • Gathering/Respite areas should be connected to firm, level, and stable accessible routes. • Lighting should be dispersed throughout the area. Intense overhead lighting should be avoided, to limit glare. • Floor surfaces should not have reflective or glossy decorative elements, to limit glare. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3 Where multiple grills are present, multiple heights should be provided. 4 Benches with companion spaces should be present. 5 Waste receptacle should be provided with a firm, level, and stable clear floor spaces. The receptacles should be marked to contrast with surroundings. 6 Gathering/Respite areas should be connected to firm, level, and stable accessible routes. 	
Parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benches with companion spaces should be present every 200’. • Accessible Single-user/multi-user/family style restroom facilities should be present. • Drinking fountains should be provided near restroom facilities. • Directional signage and wayfinding aids should be provided to each of the attractions and public features of the property. Audible and visual/tactile iconography, simplified graphics, and cues can be provided. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Directional signage and wayfinding aids should be provided to each of the attractions and public features of the property. Audible and visual/tactile iconography, simplified graphics, and cues can be provided. 2 Accessible Single-user/multi-user/family style restroom facilities should be present. 3 Benches with companion spaces should be present every 200’. 	
Playgrounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poured-in-place or similar surfaces are provided around the play elements. • Benches with companion spaces are present around the play element areas for each play element. • Ramps provide access to the upper levels of multi-level play elements. • Play elements should be of materials that are heat resistive in both materiality and color, as well as slip-resistant • Provide shade structures / shaded areas, minimize glare / reflective surfaces • Playground areas should be connected to firm, level, and stable accessible routes. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Poured-in-place or similar surfaces are provided around the play elements. 2 Benches with companion spaces are present around the play element areas for each play element. 3 Playground areas should be connected to firm, level, and stable accessible routes. 	
Restrooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retractable tertiary grab bars should be the open side of the toilet. A supplementary vertical grab bar should be present on the side wall. • Toilet paper dispensers should be over the grab bars, but under 48-inches AFF. Bulky box style dispensers should be avoided, as those models can encroach into potential transfer space around the toilet. • Automated toilets with manual flush functionality should be provided. • Full length mirrors should be provided. • Wayfinding aids beyond signage are utilized to indicate the restroom. Visual/tactile iconography, simplified graphics, and cues can be provided. • Power door actuators should be provided. • Adjustable-height sinks should be provided. • Changing tables are provided in both gendered restrooms and family-style restrooms. • In spaces planned to primarily accommodate children (daycares, schools, etc.), child height fixtures and elements are provided. Multi-user style considerations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doorless entrances are present, or entrances have Power Door Actuators. Maze-style entrances with 60-inch turning spaces at each switchback or corner can ensure privacy. • Accessible compartments are located nearest to the entrance of the restroom. • Accessible compartments are larger than 60” by 60”. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Wayfinding aids beyond signage are utilized to indicate the restroom. Visual/tactile iconography, simplified graphics, and cues can be provided. 2 Power door actuators should be provided. 3 Changing tables are provided in both gendered restrooms and family-style restrooms. In Multi-user restrooms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 Doorless entrances are present, or entrances have Power Door Actuators. Maze-style entrances with 60-inch turning spaces at each switchback or corner can ensure privacy. 5 Accessible compartments are located nearest to the entrance of the restroom. In Single-user/family-style restrooms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 90” by 90” clear floor space around the toilet with no encroaching elements or fixtures. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several ambulatory and accessible compartments are present. <p>Single-user/Family-style considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90" by 90" clear floor space around the toilet with no encroaching elements or fixtures. • Adult changing table present. 		
Parking	<p>Parking Lots & Onstreet Parking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 accessible per 25 spaces. • All parking spaces are 8' wide with 24" wide or wider access aisles on both sides of the space. • All accessible spaces are 8' wide with 8' wide access aisles on both sides of the space. • For onstreet parallel parking, an access aisle that is at least 60" by 60" should be provided at the foot end of the parking space for lifts or ramps deployed from back of vehicles. • Access aisles are attached directly to a 36" wide or wider accessible route to the nearest accessible entrance. • Where parking is perpendicular to sidewalk, the minimum sidewalk width should be 7'-0" to accommodate to allow for vehicular overhang. • Sidewalk by the accessible parking spaces is flush with the parking lot surface. • For loading zones and on street parking, an accessible ramp should be provided for every 200' of loading zone or face of the block perimeter. An access aisle should be provided between the parking space and the sidewalk. • Consider buffering on street accessible parking from active driving lanes with bike lanes or other separation strategies to provide larger buffer between moving vehicles and people accessing their parked vehicles. • On-street parking is clearly marked with signage mounted at the head or foot of the parking space on the sidewalk. • Designated pedestrian path is indicated on pavement within parking areas that separates pedestrian and vehicular traffic, and provides a safe route to/from accessible parking spaces. • Signage should be mounted with the bottom edge of the sign 60" high. • For onstreet parallel parking, signage should be mounted on the sidewalk at the head end of the parking space. • For perpendicular and diagonal parking, signage should be mounted at the head end of the parking space. <p>Parking ramps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All accessible parking is locate nearest to the accessible entrances on each level, and on the level sections of the ramp. • Signage should be mounted with the bottom edge of the sign 60" high. • The accessible parking spaces are brightly lit, and the routes to the entrances on each level are brightly lit. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 All parking spaces are 8' wide with 24" wide or wider access aisles on both sides of the space. 2 All accessible spaces are 8' wide with 8' wide access aisles on both sides of the space. 3 Consider buffering on street accessible parking from active driving lanes with bike lanes or other separation strategies to provide larger buffer between moving vehicles and people accessing their parked vehicles. 4 For onstreet parallel parking, an access aisle that is at least 60" by 60" should be provided at the foot end of the parking space for lifts or ramps deployed from back of vehicles. 5 Sidewalk by the accessible parking spaces is flush with the parking lot surface. 6 For loading zones and on street parking, an accessible ramp should be provided for every 200' of loading zone or face of the block perimeter. An access aisle should be provided between the parking space and the sidewalk. <p>In Parking Ramps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7 All accessible parking is locate nearest to the accessible entrances on each level, and on the level sections of the ramp. 8 The accessible parking spaces are brightly lit, and the routes to the entrances on each level are brightly lit. 	
Interpretive Signage/Information Maps/Wayfinding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wayfinding aids beyond directional signage with raised contrasting text characters with Braille may be used to supplement the information provided. Color and Hue and shape may be used to reinforce the standard signage. • Depending on traffic level, audible and Visual indicators should be provided at crosswalks (Ped Countdown, etc.) • All intersection and mid-block crosswalks are demarcated. • Designs and street art should be kept outside the crosswalks. • Installed at a height and distance appropriate to signage's intended user-interaction (ADA reach, brail height, etc.) • Signage should not extend into the clear width of circulation paths. • Simplified / distilled / bold graphics, legible from a variety of distances 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Wayfinding aids beyond directional signage with raised contrasting text characters with Braille may be used to supplement the information provided. Color and Hue and shape may be used to reinforce the standard signage. 2 All intersection and mid-block crosswalks are demarcated. 3 Designs and street art should be kept outside the crosswalks. 4 Simplified / distilled / bold graphics, legible from a variety of distances 	
Kitchens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roll-under clearance should be present at workstations and sinks. • Toe clearance should be continuous, with no obstructions near the sinks, stovetop/ovens. • Oven and stovetop control panels should be in the front of the appliance, between 34-48 inches AFF. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Roll-under clearance should be present at workstations and sinks. 2 Oven and stovetop control panels should be in the front of the appliance, between 34-48 inches AFF. 3 60" turning circles are provided at each end of aisles between cabinets. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drawer style cabinets should be present instead of swing doors where feasible • Sink hardware is located along the side of the sink, instead of by the backsplash. • All appliances are mounted so that the controls are not higher than 48-inches, such as coffee machines and microwaves. • 60" turning circles are provided at each end of aisles between cabinets. • Side opening appliance doors are preferable. Where bottom-hinged appliance doors are used clear space to either side of the door should be provided. • Clear turning spaces should be present at all bends in traffic paths. • Cabinetry does not require pinching, grasping, or twisting of the wrist to open. 	<p>4 Clear turning spaces should be present at all bends in traffic paths.</p> <p>5 Drawer style cabinets should be present instead of swing doors where feasible</p>	
Entrances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Push button or Wave actuators or proximity activated sliding doors provided at the main entrance. If an automated turnstile is present, an adjacent powered door should be provided. • All entrances are accessible. • All entrances Zero step entry / flush transition/threshold (if not met, accessible ramps where possible) • Entrances are lit. • Residential entrances are provided with an adjacent shelf to put objects while opening the door. • Door structures, hardware, and surrounding architecture do not have highly reflective or shiny surfaces to prevent glare. • Control panels, push buttons, Intercoms / Keypads / Lock-boxes mounted no higher than 48 inches. • Doors are 36" wide at minimum w/ clear swing (offset) door hinges • Color of entrance door(s) should contrast with surrounding surfaces • Protected entry area / covered canopy where possible • Handrails/guardrails should be provided where applicable 	<p>1 Push button or Wave actuators or proximity activated sliding doors provided at the main entrance. If an automated turnstile is present, an adjacent powered door should be provided.</p> <p>2 All entrances are Zero step entry / flush transition/threshold (if not met, accessible ramps where possible)</p> <p>3 Door structures, hardware, and surrounding architecture do not have highly reflective or shiny surfaces to prevent glare.</p> <p>4 Doors are 36" wide at minimum w/ clear swing (offset) door hinges</p> <p>5 Protected entry area / covered canopy where possible.</p>	
Dog Parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dispensers and waste bins are brightly marked to contrast with concrete and turf, and are located directly on or adjacent to an accessible route. • Drinking Fountains and water spigots contrast with concrete and turf. • Fields are color coordinated to inform what each area intended use or purpose is. • Double gated entry areas should have 48" of clearance between the gates when opened at a 90-degree angle. Gates should be 36" wide or more. • Gate hardware should be mounted under 48", and not require pinching, grasping, or twisting of the wrist to operate. • Identifying signage and wayfinding aids use Visual/tactile iconography, simplified graphics, and other cues can be provided. <p>Animal Relief Areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 different surface materials should be used to indicate relief areas and areas intended for people. 	<p>1 Dispensers and waste bins are brightly marked to contrast with concrete and turf, and are located directly on or adjacent to an accessible route.</p> <p>2 Double gated entry areas should have 48" of clearance between the gates when opened at a 90-degree angle. Gates should be 36" wide or more.</p> <p>3 Identifying signage and wayfinding aids use Visual/tactile iconography, simplified graphics, and other cues can be provided.</p>	
Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For perpendicular and diagonal parking spaces, there should be an 8' wide access aisle directly adjacent to the EV charging station mount. Dual and single mounts should be located at the head end of the access aisle. All parking spaces adjacent to this access aisle should be 8' wide or more. • For parallel parking, EV the charging station mount should be mounted on sidewalk at the head end of the parking space. • For parallel parking, an access aisle that is at least 60" by 60" should be provided at the head and foot end of the parking space for lifts or ramps deployed from back of vehicles, and to provide a space to access the charging station mount. • Consider buffering on parallel parking with EV charging stations from active driving lanes with bike lanes or other separation strategies to provide larger buffer between moving vehicles and people accessing their parked vehicles. • Charging station mounts should have control panels and operable parts that are no higher than 48-inches above the access aisle surface. 	<p>1 For perpendicular and diagonal parking spaces, there should be an 8' wide access aisle directly adjacent to the EV charging station mount. Dual and single mounts should be located at the head end of the access aisle. All parking spaces adjacent to this access aisle should be 8' wide or more.</p> <p>2 For parallel parking, EV the charging station mount should be mounted on sidewalk at the head end of the parking space.</p> <p>3 For parallel parking, an access aisle that is at least 60" by 60" should be provided at the head and foot end of the parking space for lifts or ramps deployed from back of vehicles, and to provide a space to access the charging station mount.</p> <p>4 Charging Station mounts should have no adjacent obstructions such as bollards, and not be on large curbs or pedestals that extended beyond the station mount footprint.</p> <p>5 Charging station mounts should have control panels and operable parts that are no higher than 48-inches above the access aisle surface.</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charging Station mounts should have no adjacent obstructions such as bollards, and not be on large curbs or pedestals that extended beyond the station mount footprint. 		
Fish Cleaning Stations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stations are on firm stable and level surfaces, and connect to sidewalks and accessible routes. Floor material should be slip-resistant (broom-finished concrete/etc.). Multiple station work counter heights are provided, between 34" and 36". 27" high undercounter clearance is present at sinks and work counters. Sinks and Spigots do not require pinching, grasping, or twisting of the wrist to operate. Dispensers and waste bins are brightly marked to contrast with concrete and turf, and are located directly on or adjacent to an accessible route. Fish Cleaning stations are have lights. Fish Cleaning Stations should be brightly marked to contrast with concrete and turf. Identifying signage and wayfinding aids use Visual/tactile iconography, simplified graphics, and other cues can be provided. 60" diameter turning circles are provided at the cabinets. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Floor material should be slip-resistant (broom-finished concrete/etc.). Multiple station work counter heights are provided, between 34" and 36". 27" high undercounter clearance is present at sinks and work counters. Dispensers and waste bins are brightly marked to contrast with concrete and turf, and are located directly on or adjacent to an accessible route. Identifying signage and wayfinding aids use Visual/tactile iconography, simplified graphics, and other cues can be provided. Fish Cleaning stations are have lights. 	
Elements in the Public Right of Way	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In development: Is there way to break out some of the considerations into to in/outside of the right of way? 		
Elements out of the Public Right of Way	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In development: Is there way to break out some of the considerations into to in/outside of the right of way? 		
Boardwalks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seating options should be provided along long paths of travel. Lighting should be provided along path. Intense overhead lighting should be avoided, to limit glare. Boardwalk edges should have edge protection that prevents objects 4" or smaller from rolling off the path. Edge protection should contrast with the sidewalk concrete and asphalt. Boardwalk surfaces should not have reflective or glossy decorative elements, to limit glare. Shade or similar cover should be dispersed along the routes. Slopes should be 5% grade or less. Where slopes over 5% grade are unavoidable, ramps with 8.33% grade or shallower should be provided, with edge protection, handrails, landings, and respite areas. The thresholds between the boardwalk and sidewalks should be reinforced and durable to prevent changes in level and uplifting due to setting and weathering. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Seating options should be provided along long paths of travel. Boardwalk edges should have edge protection that prevents objects 4" or smaller from rolling off the path. Edge protection should contrast with the sidewalk concrete and asphalt. The thresholds between the boardwalk and sidewalks should be reinforced and durable to prevent changes in level and uplifting due to setting and weathering. Slopes should be 5% grade or less. Where slopes over 5% grade are unavoidable, ramps with 8.33% grade or shallower should be provided, with edge protection, handrails, landings, and respite areas. 	
Kayak Launches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stepped transfer platforms are present to provide gradual transitions to the kayak from the launch platform. The highest level of the transfer platform should be not higher than 19-inches above the finished floor (AFF), and not lower than 16-inches AFF. 90-inch by 90-inch turning space should be present on the launch platform. The kayak launch facilities should connect to a firm stable and level concrete or similar route. Launch platform edges should have edge protection that prevents objects 4" or smaller from rolling off the platform. Edge protection should contrast with the sidewalk concrete and asphalt. Launch platform surfaces and fixtures should not have reflective or glossy decorative elements, to limit glare. Grab Bars should be provided for the transfer platform. Two heights should be provided that at 34-38 inches AFF, and 12-18 inches above the highest transfer platform surface. Signage depicting instructions and other notifications should be provided. Iconography and text characters should be large, bold, and contrasting. Text characters should not have serifs. Slopes should be 5% grade or less. 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where slopes over 5% grade are unavoidable, ramps with 8.33% grade or shallower should be provided, with edge protection, handrails, landings, and respite areas. The thresholds between the boardwalk and sidewalks should be reinforced and durable to prevent changes in level and uplifting due to settling, weathering, and changes in water level. 			
Sports Fields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designated accessible seating spaces are not less than 64-inches long, and 48-inches wide. Changes in level, such as the edges of the clear floor space platforms, are outlined with built-in string lights or similar. The edges should be contrasting with the surrounding floor surfaces. There should be a firm stable and level concrete or similar route between the seating areas and the playing field. The onfield seating and boxes should have concrete or similar floor surfaces that connect to firm stable and level routes to the general seating areas. Seating should not have reflective or glossy surfaces to limit glare. Stairs should have handrails. Tread edges should have contrasting markings. 			
Rehabilitation Renovations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If construction or engineering impacts the area around renovations, that area should be Wayfinding should be present indicating routes around the construction areas. 			
Showers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A curbless roll-in style shower should be provided that is not less than 60 inches by 60-inches. The shower compartment floor should be sloped to allow for a threshold-free entrance. Shower head handsets should be present. Shower chairs or folding benches should be present. 			
Lifts and Elevators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Voice notifications for floors provided. Oversized cabin control buttons present. The elevator cabin should have no mirrors, or shiny or glossy surfaces or fixtures to limit glare. Map and Floor information should be provided. 			