



Community Planning & Economic Development Services

Building Safety Division

300 Park Avenue, Suite 103E, Falls Church, VA 22046

703-248-5080 (TTY 711) permits@fallschurchva.gov

ADDENDUM TO PERMIT APPLICATION ACCESSIBILITY COMPLIANCE

PROJECT ADDRESS

Street Address	Unit #	Falls Church, VA	Zip Code
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This application must accompany any permit application for construction work in a commercial building. It should be completed by the project designer. When listing items to improve for choices C or D, only list items which are ***in addition to the actual renovation to be done***. The renovation itself must be fully compliant and does not count towards the improvements below.

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE (CHOOSE THE ONE ANSWER WHICH APPLIES)

- ☐ A. The accessible route to the areas being altered is in full compliance with the accessibility requirements of the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code (VUSBC).
- ☐ B. Alteration is not to a primary function area.
- ☐ C. Improvement to the accessible route will provide full compliance with the accessibility requirements of the VUSBC and will include the following improvements:
- ☐ D. The cost of providing a fully-compliant accessible route exceeds 20% of the hard construction cost of the proposed alteration. Compliance will only be provided up to the 20% limit and will include upgrading the following items:

Hard Construction Cost: \$ _____ Twenty Percent Amount: \$ _____

SIGNATURE

As the designer/owner of this project, I have reviewed the construction documents for conformance to the applicable codes and standards as indicated above.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____ Phone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____



The City of Falls Church is committed to the letter and spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act. This document will be made available in alternate format upon request. Call 703-248-5080 (TTY 711).

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Reviewed by Building Official: _____ Date: _____

John Russell, Building Official



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INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETION ADDENDUM TO PERMIT APPLICATION ACCESSIBILITY COMPLIANCE

All commercial renovation and alteration projects are required to submit this form to document their compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the accessibility requirements of the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code, and ANSI A117.3. All new work must be fully compliant with all accessibility requirements. In addition, all projects must either result in the *accessible route* being fully compliant or must document how they will spend 20% in addition to the project's *hard-construction* cost improving the *accessible route*. Therefore, items on the accessible route must be upgraded up to the 20% limit.

The 20% requirement does not apply to jobs limited solely to windows, hardware, operating controls, signs, mechanical systems, electrical systems, installations or alterations of fire protection systems, and abatement of hazardous materials. It does not apply to renovations undertaken for the primary purpose of improving accessibility.

Definitions

Accessible Route: This is the route from the handicapped parking space to the area being renovated. It also includes restrooms and drinking fountains which serve the area.

Hard Construction Cost: This is the total cost of the project. It shall include all general construction and trade work associated with the work to be done.

Primary Function Area: The area where the tenant business conducts the activity for which the facility is intended. Areas that contain a primary function include, but are not limited to, customer service areas, dining areas, the meeting rooms, as well as offices and other work areas in which the activities of the public accommodation or other private entity using the facility are carried out.

These definitions are intended as guidance. Everything must comply with Chapter 4 of the Virginia Existing Building Code.

Options for Improvements

The goal is to make spaces and their accessible routes as close to fully compliant as possible. In choosing which accessible elements to improve, priority should be given to those elements that will provide the greatest access, in the following order:

1. An accessible entrance
2. An accessible route to the altered area
3. At least one accessible restroom for each sex or a single unisex restroom
4. Accessible drinking fountains
5. When possible, additional accessible elements such as parking, storage, and alarms.

Types of improvements may include:

- Replacing doorknobs with levered hardware
- Adding grab bars in a restroom even if the restroom cannot be made fully accessible
- Replacing a non-compliant handicapped-parking sign with a compliant one
- Restriping the handicapped parking to include a van aisle
- Replacing non-compliant drinking fountains with fully-compliant ones.



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