



Subject: Unreasonable Hardship Request

Effective Date: 01/19/2026

California Building Code 11B-202.4, Exception 8 allows for an exemption to full-compliance of accessible path of travel. To qualify for the exception, (1) an unreasonable hardship must exist. (2) the project's Adjusted Construction Cost must exceed the current year's valuation threshold, and (3) additional elements/features, existing or proposed, must demonstrate compliance by equivalent facilitation or to the greatest extent feasible. When the enforcing agency determines the cost of compliance with path of travel requirements is an unreasonable hardship, as defined, full compliance shall not be required. Compliance shall be provided by equivalent facilitation or to the greatest extent possible without creating an unreasonable hardship; but in no case shall the cost of compliance be less than 20% of the adjusted construction cost of alterations, structural repairs or additions.

UNREASONABLE HARDSHIP - When the enforcing agency finds that compliance with the building standard would make the specific work of the project affected by the building standard infeasible, based on an overall evaluation of the following factors:

1. The cost of providing access;
2. The cost of all construction contemplated;
3. The impact of proposed improvements on the financial feasibility of the project;
4. The nature of the accessibility which would be gained or lost; and
5. The nature of the use of the facility under construction and its availability to people with disabilities.

ADJUSTED CONSTRUCTION COST - All costs directly related to the construction of a project, including labor, material, equipment, services, utilities, contractor financing, contractor overhead and profit, and construction management costs. The costs shall not be reduced by the value of components, assemblies, building equipment or construction not directly associated with accessibility or usability. The adjusted construction cost shall not include: project management fees and expenses, architectural and engineering fees, testing and inspection fees, and utility connection or service district fees. The adjusted construction cost of alterations, additions, or structural repairs shall not include the cost of path of travel upgrades.

VALUATION THRESHOLD - An annually adjusted, dollar-amount figure used in part to determine the extent of required path of travel upgrades. 2026 valuation threshold: \$209,208.

It is recommended to hire a Certified Access Specialist (CASP) to help you evaluate your site prior to plan development. [Division of State Architect-List of Certified Access Specialist.](#)

Please complete the following information and prepare a site and floor plan that clearly indicates which features will be corrected to comply with the current accessibility standards and which features will remain in a non-compliant state along the accessible route to the area of alteration. This request shall be submitted prior to submitting your plans for review so the results can be incorporated into the approved set of plans.



CITY of YORBA LINDA

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT | BUILDING

Unreasonable Hardship Request

Project Address:	Date:
Property Owner:	
Property Owner Email:	Phone Number:
Design Professional:	
Design Professional Email:	Phone Number:

Provide the scope of work/ description of the proposed project:

Describe the facility and its use by the general public:

Describe the hardship created by full compliance:

Describe how equivalent facilitation will be provided:

Please Note: This document does not alleviate any obligations or requirements of the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), such as Readily Achievable Barrier Removal. Barrier removal is an ongoing obligation required by the ADA. By signing this document, you're acknowledging that you understand it applies only to disabled access compliance as required by the California Building Code.



CITY of YORBA LINDA

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Unreasonable Hardship Request; Summary of Disabled Access Upgrades

Project Address:			Application No.		
Project Description/Location:			Permit Valuation:		
Type: ☐ Alteration ☐ Structural Repair ☐ Addition			*Adjusted Cost of Proposed Construction:		
PATH OF TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS FOR AREA OF ALTERATION, STRUCTURAL REPAIR, OR ADDITION					
Accessible Features	Does existing feature meet accessibility standards of Chapter 11B of the current CBC?		Will this feature be replaced or altered to meet Chapter 11B of the current CBC?		If so, how much will be spent to make this feature accessible?
1. Accessible entrance	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No	\$
2. Accessible route to the altered area	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No	\$
3. Accessible restroom for each sex or a unisex restroom	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No	\$
4. Accessible telephones	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No	\$
5. Accessible drinking fountains	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No	\$
6. Other (Any of the below)	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No	\$
E. Accessible parking spaces	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No	\$
F. Signs	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No	\$
G. Alarms	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No	\$
H. Other:	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No	\$
Cost of All Features Provided (A)	Summary of costs of Accessible Features Nos. 1-6 provided above.				
Adjusted Cost of Proposed Construction (B)	Construction cost for all proposed work on this permit application except Accessible Features Nos. 1-6 provided above.				\$
Percentage Upgrades Provided (A / B)	Cost of all Features Provided / Total Cost on Same Path of Travel.				%
Description of Access Features Provided:					
Applicant Certification: I certify that the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.					
Signature:		Date:	Company:		
Name: (print)				Address:	
Title:				City, State Zip:	
Agent for:	☐ Owner ☐ Architect ☐ Engineer ☐ Contractor			Phone No.:	
For Building Official Use Only					
☐ Approved	☐ Denied	By:	Title:	Date: / /	
Reason(s) for denial:					
☐ No unreasonable hardship exists					
☐ The project's Adjusted Construction Cost does not exceed the current year's valuation threshold.					
☐ Additional elements/features, existing or proposed, does not demonstrate compliance by equivalent facilitation or to the greatest extent feasible.					
☐ The costs to upgrade the accessible path of travel is less than the required 20% of the project's construction costs/valuation					
Comments:					



CITY of YORBA LINDA

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT | BUILDING

Example: Unreasonable Hardship Request; Summary of Disabled Access Upgrades

Project Address: 123 Hope Street			Application No. YL-0000000		
Project Description/Location: Office tenant improvement (2,040 SF) on 5th floor Suite No. 502			Permit Valuation: \$180,000.00		
Type: ☒ Alteration ☐ Structural Repair ☐ Addition			*Adjusted Cost of Proposed Construction: \$144,000.00		
PATH OF TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS FOR AREA OF ALTERATION, STRUCTURAL REPAIR, OR ADDITION					
Accessible Features	Does existing feature meet accessibility standards of Chapter 11B of the current CBC?		Will this feature be replaced or altered to meet Chapter 11B of the current CBC?		If so, how much will be spent to make this feature accessible?
1. Accessible entrance	☐ Yes	☒ No	☒ Yes	☐ No	\$ 2,400.00
2. Accessible route to the altered area	☐ Yes	☒ No	☐ Yes	☐ No	\$26,000.00
3. Accessible restroom for each sex serving the area	☐ Yes	☒ No	☒ Yes	☐ No	\$ 8,000.00
4. Accessible telephones	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No	\$
5. Accessible drinking fountains	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No	\$
6. Other (Any of the below)	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No	\$
A. Accessible parking spaces	☐ Yes	☒ No	☒ Yes	☐ No	\$ 1,100.00
B. Signs	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No	\$
C. Alarms	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No	\$
D. Other:	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Yes	☐ No	\$
Cost of All Features Provided (A)	Summary of costs of Accessible Features Nos. 1-6 provided above.				\$37,500.00
Total Cost on Same Path of Travel (B)	Cost of Proposed Construction and Cost of Preceding Alterations.				\$144,000.00
Percentage Upgrades Provided (A / B)	Cost of all Features Provided / Total Cost on Same Path of Travel.				26%
Description of Access Features Provided:					
New entrance landing, new accessible fixtures for the restrooms, properly mark and identify the accessible parking area, and 27 cubic yards of concrete (289 feet of sidewalk)					
Applicant Certification: I certify that the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.					
Signature:	John Smith	Date:	02/12/2026	Company:	Johns' Smithing & Wesson
Name: (print)	John Smith	Address:	123 Broadway		
Title:	Architect of Record	City, State Zip:	Oroville, CA, 95965		
Agent for:	☒ Owner ☒ Architect ☐ Engineer ☐ Contractor			Phone No.:	530-000-0000
For Building Official Use Only					
☐ Approved	☐ Denied	By:	Title:		Date: / /
Reason(s) for denial:					
☐ No unreasonable hardship exists					
☐ The project's Adjusted Construction Cost/Valuation does not exceed the current year's valuation threshold.					
☐ Additional elements/features, existing or proposed, does not demonstrate compliance by equivalent facilitation or to the greatest extent feasible.					
☐ The costs to upgrade the accessible path of travel is less than the required 20% of the project's construction costs/valuation					