



**OFFICE OF THE  
STATE FIRE MARSHAL**



JANUARY 9, 2002

**NOTIFICATION RE: ADAAG REQUIREMENT**

**Detectable Warnings as per ADAAG (1994 ed.)**

On April 12, 1994, the Access Board published a joint final rule with the Departments of Justice and Transportation suspending until July 26, 2001, the ADAAG requirements for detectable warnings. As this suspension has been lifted, the Fire Marshal's Office **WILL, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 9, 2002, CITE THESE REQUIREMENTS.**

Detectable warnings are raised patterns in a pedestrian circulation area that warn the visually impaired person of approaching a vehicular circulation area, vehicular parking area, or a reflecting pool. The intent is to provide a tactile boundary between pedestrian circulation AREAS and vehicular circulation or parking AREAS.

The only acceptable form of detectable warning is the 'raised truncated dome'. The domes shall be .9 inches in nominal diameter, .2 inches in nominal height, and centered 2.35 inches apart. The area required to have a detectable warning shall visually contrast in color with adjoining surfaces, either light-on-dark, or dark-on-light. The material used to provide the contrasting color shall be an INTEGRAL part of the walking surface.

Detectable warnings are required:

- 1) At curb ramps. Note that a 'curb ramp' is a short ramp cutting through a curb or built up to it. Generally these are ramps without handrails that transition from vehicular areas to a pedestrian area. The detectable warning shall extend the full width and depth of the curb ramp. (ADAAG 4.7.7)
- 2) To warn of approaching a hazardous vehicular AREA. Note that a 'Hazardous' *vehicular* AREA is a vehicular circulation area or a vehicular parking area that is not separated by a curb, railing, or other element (such as tire stops) from the *pedestrian* AREA. Detectable warnings are to be located in the pedestrian area and NOT in the vehicular circulation or parking area. A minimum 36 inch wide continuous detectable warning must be provided at the boundary between pedestrian areas and vehicular areas, that are not separated by curbs, railings or other elements. (ADAAG 4.29.5)
- 3) Reflecting pools. A minimum 24 inch wide (width as recommended by the ATBCB 1/8/02) continuous detectable warning must be provided at the edge of a reflecting pool where it is not separated from the adjoining pedestrian area by curbs, railings, or walls. (ADAAG 4.29.6)