

Accessibility Code 1341 TAG

Meeting Notes

Date: Wednesday, July 3, 2024

Meeting Location: DLI Isanti Room/WebEx Event

Call to order:

Karen Gridley

Attendance:

TAG Members attending: Dori Dufresne, David Fenley, Chris Machmer, Lee Gladitsch, Karen Gridley, Mara Peterson, Haidee Tan

TAG Members not attending: Dave Mathews

Guests attending: Scott Anderson, Mike Bunnell, Allison Eastham, Alexis Johnson, Britt McAdamis, Anna Scholin, Joshua Simma, Amanda Spuckler, Clayton Talbot

Worksheet and Code Change Proposal Review:

Reviewed Worksheet items listed below constituting the more impactful changes in Chapter 11 of the 2024 IBC, and the 2017 edition of ICC A117.1 Standard.

A117.1 Worksheet Item 68 - Section 613 Adult Changing Facilities.

TAG members considered suggestions to make the requirements more stringent where adult changing tables are provided in school classrooms. The TAG and the proponent concluded that suggestions for adult changing table requirements specific to services provided in school classrooms might be pursued through policy that directly impacts schools rather than the building code.

A117.1 Worksheet Item 74 – Section 704.7 Visual relay service booths.

The TAG consensus is to accept this model code change which adds design criteria for visual relay service booths when provided. These are not required by scoping and are optional design criteria.

A117.1 Worksheet Item 75 – Section 705.6 Detectable warnings.

The TAG consensus is to accept this model code change which provides clarifying language for the depth, width and length of detectable warnings on transit platforms, curb ramps, pedestrian rail crossings, and boarding platforms.

A117.1 Worksheet Item 76 – Section 705.7 – 705.7.7 Placement of detectable warnings.

The TAG consensus is to accept this new section that provides installation guidelines and clarifies areas of confusion for placement of detectable warnings at different elements such as at curb ramps, parallel curb ramps, blended transitions and pedestrian refuge islands.

A117.1 Worksheet Item 78 – Proposed Change Acc-19 and Section 802.1 General assembly seating areas.

The TAG consensus is to accept the proposed change which modifies the model code language to eliminate the scoping language and instead reference Chapter 11 of the IBC as amended by MN Rules, chapter 1341, for scoping criteria for tiered seating. The new design criteria addresses dining or work surfaces in tiered seating areas and includes wheelchair seating requirements for integration, companion seat, lines of sight, wheelchair dispersion and dining & work surface requirements.

A117.1 Worksheet Item 82 – Section 802.8.2 Designated Aisle Seat Identification.

The TAG consensus is to accept the model code language which modifies the requirement for signage at designated aisle seats to allow methods of identification in addition to the International Symbol of Accessibility. Words or other symbols can now be used to identify accessible aisle seats in theaters.

A117.1 Worksheet Item 84 – Section 802.10.3.1 and 906 Wheelchair charging stations.

The TAG consensus is to accept the model code which adds a new section for wheelchair charging stations provided at wheelchair seating locations. Section 802.10.3.1 directs code users to the design criteria in Section 906 for the design of the charging station, including clear floor space at a grounded outlet and reach range requirements.

A117.1 Worksheet Item 86 – Section 802.11 Sign language interpreter stations.

The TAG consensus is to accept the model code language which adds new requirements for sign language interpreter stations such as size, line of sight, angle, distance, and illumination. There is no scoping requirement for sign language interpreter stations and code language is optional design criteria.

A117.1 Worksheet Item 87 – Section 804.2, 804.2.2 and 804.2.3 Kitchen clearances.

The TAG consensus is to accept the model code language which allows a 40" wide clearance between cabinets and an appliance or between cabinets and cabinets in kitchens without a cooktop or conventional range. The same 40" wide clearance applies to a U-shaped kitchen with an island that allows for travel around and out the other end.

A117.1 Worksheet Item 92 – Section 808 Classroom Acoustics.

The TAG consensus is to accept the model code language which adds new design criteria for classrooms exceeding 20,000 cubic feet that are required to provide enhanced acoustics. Scoping already exists in IBC Section 1207 and IEBC sections 502.6, 503.18, 506.6, 903.4, 1011.4 and 1101.6. Additionally, MN Statutes, section, 123B.71, that is enforced by the MN Dept of Education requires school construction, expansion, or remodels to comply with the ANSI design guidelines. The criteria includes requirements for maximum ambient sound levels and reverberation times which are determined by either a performance method or a prescriptive method dependent upon the size of the classroom.

A117.1 Worksheet Item 94 – Section 903.2 Clear floor space location at changing benches.

The TAG consensus is to accept the model code language which clarifies that a clear floor space must be positioned at the end of the bench parallel to the short axis, in addition to the clear floor space required on the front of the long side of the bench. This is consistent with the Federal ADA that has required a clearance at the end of the bench since 2010.

A117.1 Worksheet Item 104 – Section 1102.15.4 Wheelchair charging area in Accessible dwelling/sleeping units.

The TAG consensus is to accept the model code language which adds a new requirement for a wheelchair clear floor space in accessible dwelling/sleeping units to comply with the charging space requirements of 906. This allows for an unobstructed outlet for charging electric wheelchairs.

A117.1 Worksheet Item 107 – Section 1103.12.1.2 Clearance in U-Shaped kitchens in Type A dwelling/sleeping units.

The TAG consensus is to accept the model code language which adds an exception for the clear width between cabinets and between cabinets and appliances that reduces the minimum clearance from 60" to 40" in U-shaped kitchens with islands where that allow for travel through the kitchen around the island and exit from the kitchen at a different point.

A117.1 Worksheet Item 109 – Section 1103.12.3.1 Clear floor space at work surface in Type A dwelling/sleeping units.

The TAG consensus is to accept the model code language that no longer requires the forward clear floor space be centered on the work surface. This is consistent with other code sections where the forward clear floor space is not required to be centered.

A117.1 Worksheet Item 112 – Section 1104.1.1 Clear floor space in Type B dwelling/sleeping units.

The TAG consensus is to accept the model code language which clarifies that clear floor spaces in Type B units shall be 30" x 48." Type B units are not required comply with the new requirements for larger sized clear floor space. This is consistent with the federal rules for units required to comply with the FHA.

A117.1 Worksheet Item 113 – Section 1104.1.2 Mailboxes serving Type B Dwelling/sleeping units.

The TAG consensus is to accept the model code language which adds an allowance that the reach range can be up to 54" max for mailboxes serving Type B units. This is an attempt to harmonize with requirements of the USPS for postal worker safety/ergonomics.

A117.1 Worksheet Item 119 – Section 1104.9 Operable parts in Type B dwelling/sleeping units.

TAG consensus is to accept the model code language which breaks Exception 2 into two separate exceptions related to clear floor space at outlets in kitchens. New exception 2 removes the reference to Section 309 in favor of simply complying with this section. New Exception 3 gives allowance for clear floor space at outlets in a corner where there are appliances near the corner in each leg of the counter as long as the countertop area does not exceed 9 square feet.

A117.1 Worksheet Item 123 - Section 1104.11.3.1.3.3 Shower compartment in Type B dwelling/sleeping units.

TAG consensus is to accept the model code language which removes the allowance to omit reinforcing for a shower seat if the compartment is larger than 36" x 36". But adds two new exceptions: One allows an alternate compartment size of 30" min deep if the width is at least 44" min. The second allows a shower door assembly where it can be removed without removal or replacement of the surrounding walls and floor.

A117.1 Worksheet Item 124 – Section 1104.12.1.2 Clearance in U-shaped kitchens in Type B dwelling/sleeping units.

TAG consensus is to accept the model code language which adds exception that reduces the clear width from 60" to 40" in U-shaped kitchens with islands that allow for travel through the kitchen around the island and then exit from the kitchen at a different point. These kitchens function the same as galley-style kitchens.

A117.1 Worksheet Item 147 – Section 1010.1 and 1010.3 Shooting facilities with firing positions.

The TAG consensus is to accept the model code language which adds a subsection addressing where the firing position requires shooting over a counter or wall and requires the top of the counter or wall to be 34" max. If counter surfaces are provided at other firing positions of the same type, equivalent counter surfaces shall be provided at the firing position having turning space.

Revisited IBC worksheet item 14 – IBC Section 1108.5 Proposed Change Acc-03 and Group I and R-3 occupancies with assisted living.

The TAG consensus is to accept the proposed change that aligns with state statutes for assisted living facilities and accessible elements design in state licensed facilities. The proposed language was accepted by MN Dept of Health. TAG members noted that coordination with IBC TAG for the definitions of “Assisted Living With Dementia Care” and “Licensed Care Facilities” is necessary.

Proposed Change Acc-12 – IBC Section 1103.2.11 Exemption from accessibility for R-1 and R-3 occupancies with 5 or fewer units for rent where the building is also occupied by the proprietor.

The TAG consensus is to reject the proposal which rearranges the wording to clarify that you do not count the dwelling or sleeping unit of the proprietor. This change is based on proposed IBC language for the 2027 IBC. The TAG did not feel that the existing language poses any significant confusion and the proposed change is editorial.

Revisited IBC worksheet item 50 – Proposed Change Acc-15.1 and IBC Sections 604.3.2 - 604.3.3, and 604.9.2 Toilet clearance, depth, and compartment size.

The TAG consensus is to accept the proposed change with modifications to carry forward MN Rules, chapter 1341, requirements for clearance around water closets that is 78” from the back wall or 48” from in front of the toilet. The changes add clarification for compartment depth with an outward swinging door versus inward swing door, which allows for an “alternate” compartment size of 84” minimum depth. The TAG members recommended modifying the proposal to change the term “out-swinging” to “outward swinging” door.

Next Meeting:

Date: July 17, 2024

Time: 9:00 AM

Location: DLI Isanti Room

Meeting Adjourned: 12:02 PM

Prepared by: Karen Gridley