

RB14-013

BARRIER-FREE WASHROOM REQUIREMENTS IN EXISTING BUILDINGS

Reference: Article 3.8.1.1., Article 3.8.2.1. and Div C, Sentence 2.2.1.4.(1)

Article 3.8.1.1. “Application”

Article 3.8.2.1. “Areas Requiring a Barrier-Free Path of Travel”

Div C, Sentence 2.2.1.4.(1) “Barrier-Free Relaxations. The *Chief Building Administrator* may grant relaxation of one or more of the requirements of Section 3.8 if an *owner* can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the *Chief Building Administrator* that

- a) the specific requirements are unnecessary, or
- b) extraordinary circumstances prevent conformance.”

Commentary | Relevant Facts | Conclusion:

This decision applies to new tenancies and renovation and/or expansion of existing tenancies.

If there is no barrier-free access to a building, barrier-free washrooms are not required.

If barrier-free access is provided into a building, barrier-free washrooms are required per code for new buildings and to existing buildings where there are major renovations to existing washrooms involving plan changes or relocations of plumbing fixtures or if new washrooms are added.

Requests for relaxation for any other reason may be submitted directly to the Chief Building Administrator under **Div C, Sentence 2.2.1.4.(1)**. The “Application for Relaxation of Required Facilities for the Disabled” is available on the Alberta Municipal Affairs and Housing website (www.municipalaffairs.gov.ab.ca/).

Chief Building Inspector

Regulation Bulletin General Policy Statement

Unless stated otherwise, the Code references in this Regulations Bulletin are to Division B of the Alberta Building Code 2014 (ABC 2014). Regulation Bulletins do not overrule the ABC 2014 nor constitute a relaxation of the Code. They serve to clarify the Code in areas where the latter is ambiguous or does not cover a specific topic. Regulation Bulletins are City of Calgary clarifications for staff use to enable consistency in the application of the Code. Regulation Bulletins should always be read in the context of the appropriate requirements of the Code