

R. C. BREWSTER  
 TRANSPORTATION ENGINEER  
 TRAFFIC ENGINEERING DIVISION

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
**TRAFFIC ENGINEERING DIVISION**  
 MEMORANDUM

GENERAL SUBJECT: Disabled Parking		NUMBER: TE-284
SPECIFIC SUBJECT: Disabled Parking & Passenger Loading Zones		DATE: March 10, 1998 March 11, 1998
		SUPERSEDES: TE-250, T&S-174, T&S-135
DIRECTED TO: District Administrators		SIGNATURE: <i>J. A. Butner</i>

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires the Department to modify its existing disabled parking policy. The necessary modifications address required percentages and dimensions of disabled parking spaces. In addition, we have included information the FHWA intends to adopt regarding placement, size and color of the disabled parking symbol. Unless otherwise directed, these changes should be incorporated in all Departmental parking lots when the existing pavement surface or pavement markings require scheduled maintenance.

Percentage of disabled parking spaces shall be based on the following table:

TOTAL PARKING IN LOT	REQUIRED MINIMUM NUMBER OF ACCESSIBLE SPACES
1 to 25	1
26 to 50	2
51 to 75	3
76 to 100	4
101 to 150	5
151 to 200	6
201 to 300	7
301 to 400	8
401 to 500	9
501 to 1000	2 percent of total
1001 and over	20, plus 1 for each 100 over 1000

The ADA allows two alternatives regarding disabled parking and access aisle dimensions. The first alternative requires at least one "Van Accessible" space and an additional "Van Accessible" space

for every eight typical disabled spaces. The "Van Accessible" space(s) shall have a minimum width of 2440 mm (96 inches) with a minimum shared access aisle width of 2440 mm (96 inches). The remaining typical disabled spaces shall have a minimum width of 2440 mm (96 inches) with a minimum shared access aisle width of 1525 mm (60 inches). This alternative requires additional signing to identify all "Van Accessible" spaces. To avoid the added expense associated with pavement marking eradication, the above alternative should be utilized at all facilities that have existing pavement markings.

The second alternative requires that all disabled spaces be of a "Universal" design having a minimum width of 3350 mm (132 inches) with a minimum shared access aisle width of 1525 mm (60 inches).

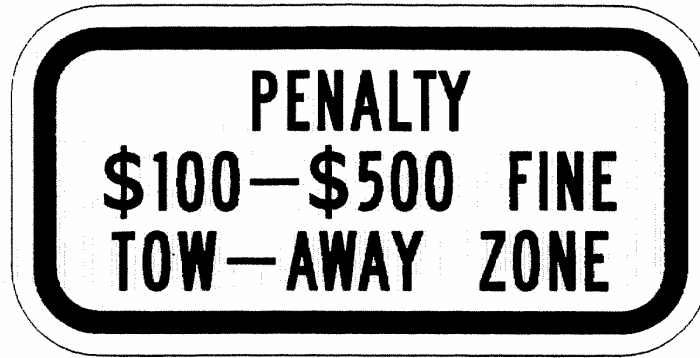
The bottom of the wheelchair symbol shall be placed horizontally centered at the entrance to the disabled parking space. No portion of the wheelchair symbol shall be outside of the parking space when connecting an imaginary line between the ends of the parallel parking space lines. Although the FHWA permits the use of blue and white pavement markings to delineate disabled parking spaces, the Department has, for the sake of consistency, elected to utilize only white pavement markings for such purposes. Likewise, the FHWA permits the use of two standard disabled parking symbols however, the Department has elected to utilize only the larger of the two symbols. This symbol shall be 915 mm (36 inches) in width, by 1040 mm (41 inches) in height, and shall utilize a 100 mm (4 inch) stroke width.

The decision to apply pavement markings within rest areas for delineation of disabled access ramps to the sidewalk is left to the discretion of the District Traffic Engineer.

The Code of Virginia requires each disabled space to be individually delineated by above grade signing. Above grade signing shall be the standard R7-8 sign (without the arrow) as shown in the MUTCD and the Standard Highway Signs booklet with supplemental signing conforming to the appropriate attached sign designs. As indicated above, the "VAN ACCESSIBLE" sign shall only be installed for parking spaces that are van accessible and shall be installed just below the R7-8 sign. The "PENALTY, \$100-\$500 FINE, TOW-AWAY ZONE" design shall be installed below the R7-8 sign, or the "VAN ACCESSIBLE" sign when it is installed, for all disabled parking spaces prior to July 1, 1998 and shall be a minimum of four feet above the parking surface. (Clarification: All R7-8 signs will have "Penalty/Tow" installed below R7-8 sign).

MGR/mgr

cc: Mr. David R. Gehr  
Mr. J. G. Browder, Jr  
Mr. Claude D. Garver, Jr.  
Division Administrators  
Resident Engineer  
District Traffic Engineers  
Ms. Kathe Jefferson  
Mr. Dan Dennis



<b>SHAPE</b>	Horizontal Rectangle		
<b>COLOR</b>	Message and Border:	Green (Reflectorized)	
	Field:	White (Reflectorized)	
<b>SIZE</b>	Height:	6"	
	Width:	12"	
<b>MESSAGE</b>	Line 1 Capitals:	1"B	
	Line 2 Capitals:	1"B	
	Line 3 Capitals:	1"B	
<b>MARGIN WIDTH</b>	3/8"		
<b>BORDER WIDTH</b>	3/8"		
<b>CORNER RADIUS</b>	1 1/2"		

Note: Vertical spacing between the message and the border and between lines of the message is 3/8".



SHAPE	Horizontal Rectangle	
COLOR	Message and border: field:	Green (reflectorized) White (reflectorized)
SIZE	Horizontal: Vertical:	*18" 6"
MESSAGE	Line 1 Capitals: Line 2 Capitals:	1 1/2" B 1 1/2" B
MARGIN WIDTH	3/8"	
BORDER WIDTH	3/8"	
CORNER RADIUS	1 1/2"	

- \* 12" length sign blank is adequate for the message; however, a 18" sign blank is shown since it is the standard blank size stocked by the sign shops.