

Height Restrictions

The vertical clearance from the sidewalk to the bottom of any sign or over hanging vegetation (Trees) shall be 7 feet minimum in accordance with the [MUTCD](#), Part 2 and AASHTO's Guide for the Planting, Design, and Operation of Pedestrian Facilities, respectively.* Guy wires and utility tie-downs should not be located in or across sidewalks at heights below 8 feet.

The passage along or within a sidewalk should be clear of obstructions underfoot, overhead, or between. Objects with leading edges above the standard sweep of canes (27") from the ground and below the standard head clearance (80") from the ground shall protrude no more than 4" maximum horizontally into the accessible route.

Width

New sidewalks shall be 5 feet wide excluding the width of curb. However, in unique situations where this is not feasible, a minimum clear width of 4 feet shall be provided excluding the width of curb. Pedestrian Access Routes less than 5 feet wide excluding the width of curb require the submission of a Design Waiver (See [IIM-LD-227](#)). **Design Exceptions are not applicable for sidewalks less than 4 feet wide.**

When sidewalk is constructed adjacent to a retaining wall in a "cut" section situation the minimum width shall be 5.5 feet measured from the back of the curb to the face of the retaining wall. However, the recommended minimum width is 6 feet excluding the width of curb. The 6 feet width allows for a 1 foot shy line, rather than a 6 inch shy line from the retaining wall.

New sidewalks less than 5 feet in continuous width excluding the width of curb shall provide a pedestrian passing area a minimum of 5 feet x 5 feet at reasonable intervals not to exceed 200 feet. These passing areas can be provided at driveways and street intersections with cross slopes no greater than 48:1 (2%).

For "NO" on-street parking situations where sidewalk is placed adjacent to the back of curb it shall be 5 feet wide minimum excluding the width of curb and requires the submission of a Design Waiver for No Buffer Strip (See [IIM-LD-227](#)). All lateral obstructions (sign, utility poles landscaping, fire hydrants, street lights, parking meters, signal control boxes, and signal poles, etc.) shall be placed behind the sidewalk so as not to encroach on the pedestrian access route. Therefore, right of way shall be acquired behind the sidewalk for placement of all lateral obstructions.

For on-street parking situations, where sidewalk is placed adjacent to the curb, the width shall be 8 feet wide minimum excluding the width of curb to allow vehicle doors to open and people to exit from the vehicle without blocking the pedestrian access route.

* Rev. 1/16