SECTION 01 20 00 – CAMPUS ACCESSIBILITY & UNIVERSAL DESIGN GUIDELINES

PART 1 - GENERAL

1.1 SUMMARY

A. The purpose of this document is to provide accessibility guidelines for campus elements that are unique to Brown University. Assess all projects and campus modifications individually while using this document as a guide to facilitate decisions and processes regarding accessibility and universal design at Brown University.

1.2 BACKGROUND & GOALS:

A. Accessibility on Campus

The Brown University campus is comprised of approximately 220 buildings, 170 of which were built before 1968 and are over 50 years old dating back to 1770. Of these historic structures, 82 (37%) of Brown's building inventory were originally built as residences and now serve a diverse set of uses across campus including classrooms, departments, centers, and offices. Given their history, many of these structures lack accessibility.

The University is located on Providence's College Hill, a challenging topography inherent in its name. Due to the historic nature of the campus, the significant number of residential structures, and the physical location on College Hill, there are many locations across campus that present accessibility challenges.

Brown's rich fabric of buildings, landscapes, and streetscapes comprise the campus, which is viewed holistically in its planning and programming. This campus approach conceives each building as not having a traditional "front" and "back" but instead have varying points of access from both the street side and campus side.

B. Goals

Accessibility at Brown includes ADA Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) compliance, International and State Building Code compliance, accessible paths and entrances, access to public spaces (receptions, classrooms, meeting rooms, and assembly spaces) and access to compliant single-user gender-inclusive restrooms. Campus accessibility goals:

1. All new construction and significant renovations should be fully compliant with the adopted building code and with ADAAG. These projects shall also utilize these guidelines for holistic campus accessibility in order to exceed code requirements.
2. When major renovations are not planned for a specific building, increase accessibility in existing buildings when possible, but also as needed by request of students, faculty, and staff who use a particular building.
3. Prioritize accessibility projects that affect the largest group of people.

C. SAS & the CAAC

Facilities Management works with Student Accessibility Services (SAS), University Human Resources, and the Campus Access Advisory Committee (CAAC) to meet the campus accessibility goals in projects across campus. These groups work in a partnership to achieve the CAAC vision statement that reads:

"All members and guests of the Brown Community have equitable physical and technological access, enabling them to fully engage and participate with all the campus has to offer."

1.3 GUIDELINES FOR UNIVERSAL DESIGN

A. Campus Exterior Elements

1. Pathways & Thresholds

Access to new and existing buildings and landscapes should be considered holistically with a campus approach such that accessible circulation systems and pathways are maintained not only on the project site, but also on the broader campus vicinity. Where feasible, exterior pathways that provide access to main entrances are to utilize accessible sloped walks. Exterior lifts are to be avoided. Any modifications to campus pathways such as landscape, art, and site features, are to be reviewed by the University Architect.

While designing accessible routes consider site connectivity, SAS shuttle drop off locations, and accessible parking.

2. Signage

All interior and exterior signs should comply with building signage standards Section 10 14 00-01.

In addition to above criteria, when an accessible entrance differs from the main building entrance, provide a sign to direct visitors to the accessible entrance. This sign should include the universal symbol for accessibility, a directional arrow or additional information to direct visitors. See with building signage standards Section 10 14 01 for reference.

3. Exterior Ramps
   Ramps that require handrails are to be employed only where sloped walks are not feasible. Integrate ramp design into the landscape and complement building and landscape materiality. University Architect to review all exterior ramps.

4. Topography
   Brown University's location on College Hill presents challenges for campus and existing building accessibility. Consider building access that enhances pedestrian connectivity and experience for all users and strengthens campus and site connections. Building access may include accessible sloped walkways, ramps, courtyards, and connectors. Access via sloped walkways is strongly preferred. Avoid exterior lifts.

B. Building Entrances

1. The nature of a campus is such that buildings have multiple and varied points of entry. The main building entrance shall be the main accessible entrance unless it is not feasible and approved by the University Architect. Because the Brown campus is viewed holistically in its planning and programming, the campus approach allows each building to be conceived as not having a traditional "front" and "back" but instead may have varying points of access from both the street side and campus side. Consider shared entrances to provide access to multiple buildings where feasible.

2. Power Assist
   Provide power-assist door openers at main accessible building entrances as feasible and as required by ADAAG and building codes. Location and use of wall mounted or post mounted activation pads should be assessed on a case by case basis.

3. Prox Readers
   Prox readers are preferred to card readers where feasible. Where prox readers/swipe access are provided in locations with power-assist door openers, the device shall operate the door opener. Review and coordinate with access control.

C. Lifts
   1. Utilize interior lifts only when no other means is feasible to negotiate elevation change. Avoid exterior lifts due to complex operations and maintenance. Stair lifts shall not be specified unless reviewed with the University Architect. Controls for interior lifts installed in public areas shall permit operation of the lift without use of key or special access card and without the need to apply continuous pressure to operate the lift. The size of lifts shall be reviewed on a case-by-case basis in order to best serve the primary use of the lift.

   2. Elevators
      Provide audible annunciators where mezzanines or complex building levels are featured and as required by code.

D. Stage Access
   Stages to be accessible to all persons.

E. Furniture
   1. Where furniture is provided, ensure accessible options and accessible seating are provided.
   2. Consider classroom furniture that will allow for height adjustment of desks/table tops.
   3. All furniture to comply with Section 12 00 00 Furnishings.

F. Single User Facilities
   1. Restrooms
      In order to provide accessibility as well as accommodate gender-inclusivity, the designer shall provide at minimum one single-user restroom for new buildings and renovations. All new single user restrooms should be designated “Restroom” and should be non-gendered; coordinate with building and plumbing code review. Provide signage that indicates accessibility. Room name to be “Restroom” with no indications or symbols of gender. Provide privacy lock. Consider multiple gender inclusive restrooms in high traffic buildings with assembly or classroom programs. It is preferred that the gender inclusive restrooms be centrally located on the first or second floor but may vary on a

case-by-case basis. Ensure location accommodates access to gender inclusive restroom throughout day and evening programming.

2. Locker/Shower Rooms
   In order to provide accessibility as well as accommodate gender-inclusivity, the designer shall provide at least one single-user locker/shower room for new buildings and renovations where these facilities are provided.

3. All signs and symbols should comply with building signage standards Section 10 14 01.

A. Wellness Rooms
   1. In new construction and major renovations, provide a room to accommodate lactation or other personal medical use. Room to be designated "Wellness Room." Wellness Room is to be fully private with privacy lock and include at minimum a small refrigerator, chair and side table. Incorporation of an accessible sink is encouraged where feasible.
   2. Quantity and location of Wellness Room to be determined on a case-by-case basis. At minimum, provide one Wellness Room per building. If the building or renovation is multi-story, consider one Wellness Room be provided on every other level. A restroom stall or storage area shall not serve as a lactation space or Wellness Room.
   3. More information on policy can be found at: brown.edu/about/administration/human-resources/benefits/family-resources/lactation-privacy-rooms

B. Technology
   1. Hearing Loops
      In new construction and major renovations that feature auditoriums, large classrooms, or other multipurpose spaces outfitted with audio/visual systems include a built-in hearing loop system. This system should utilize the most current technology to be coordinated and approved by Media Services. Provide appropriate signage adjacent to the room signage indicating the presence of the system and information on how to gain user access.

   2. Displays
      Installation of touch-screen displays should include accommodation for interacting with the system. Proposed displays should be coordinated and approved by Media Services.

3. Closed Captioning
   Incorporate closed captioning systems in new construction and major renovations that feature auditoriums, large classrooms, or other multipurpose spaces outfitted with audio/visual systems. Review and coordinate with Media Services.

C. Equipment
   1. Refrigerator/Freezer
      In kitchen or break-room locations where a full-size refrigerator/freezer is included, provide a side-by-side model rather than a top-freezer model to accommodate accessibility to both compartments.

1.4 PROJECTS IN DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION

A. Signage and Communication
   All projects that impact accessibility shall provide a Campus Construction Accessible Routes map that indicates temporary access to sites impacted by construction activities. These maps are updated by FM Projects on a monthly or as needed basis and can be found at brown.edu/facilities/projects

B. Accessibility Map
   The accessibility map represents building accessibility ratings, accessible routes, pathways, building entrances, and parking. All projects that impact accessibility shall coordinate updates to the accessibility map with the CAAC and FM CAD. The map shall be updated on a semi-annual basis or as needed. The accessibility map can be found at brown.edu/facilities/campus-maps

C. Project Manager Accessibility Checklist
   1. CAAC Engagement Meetings
   2. Campus Construction Accessible Routes Map (see link above)
   3. Update Campus Accessibility Map at project completion; coordinate with FM CAD.

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