

Appendix C – Agency ADA Design Standards and Procedures

Design Standards

Stearns County follows the 2015 MN Accessibility Code or most current Code for building improvements and generally follows the guidelines identified in PROWAG when practical and feasible for pedestrian curb ramps.

Design Procedures

Building Design

Stearns County follows Minnesota requirements for capital improvement building facility designs which typically require plans and specifications to be designed and approved by professional architects and engineers licensed by the State of Minnesota architects and engineers. For older building remodeling projects, there may be limitations which make it technically infeasible to achieve full compliance within the scope of any project. Those limitations will be noted and will remain on the transition plan. As future projects or opportunities arise, bringing those items shall into compliance shall continue to be incorporated into future work. Regardless of whether full compliance can be achieved or not, each building shall be made as compliant as possible in accordance with the judgment of County staff.

Curb Ramps Corners on Pedestrian Access Routes to County Building Facilities

Stearns County intends to construct or upgrade curb ramps to achieve compliance as part of its capital improvement projects. There may be limitations which make it technically infeasible for an intersection corner to achieve full accessibility within the scope of any project. Those limitations will be noted and those corners will remain on the transition plan. As future projects or opportunities arise, those corners shall continue to be incorporated into future work. Regardless of whether full compliance can be achieved or not, each corner shall be made as compliant as possible in accordance with the judgment of County staff.

Sidewalks on Pedestrian Access Routes to County Building Facilities

Stearns County will evaluate and attempt to construct or upgrade sidewalks and to achieve compliance as part of capital improvement projects. There may be limitations which make it technically infeasible for segments of sidewalks to achieve full accessibility within the scope of any project. Those limitations will be noted and those segments will remain on the transition plan. As future projects or opportunities arise, those segments shall continue to be incorporated into future work. Regardless of whether full compliance can be achieved or not,

every sidewalk shall be made as compliant as possible in accordance with the judgment of County staff.

Other policies, practices and programs

Policies, practices and programs not identified in this document will follow the applicable ADA standards.