

Morris Goding Access Consulting

Station Beach Boat House Wharf Palm Beach

1191 Barrenjoey Road, Palm Beach

Access Review – DA 6

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1. Executive Summary

The Access Review Report is a key element in the design development of The Boathouse located at Palm Beach, and an appropriate response to the AS1428 series, Building Code of Australia (BCA), Premises Standards and ultimately the Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act (DDA).

Morris Goding Access Consulting has prepared the Access Report to provide advice and strategies to maximise reasonable provisions of access for people with disabilities. The aim of the review is to ensure that the accessibility provisions comply with the relevant statutory requirements, and consideration of a higher degree of accessibility to meet the intent of the DDA of inclusive, dignified and equitable access.



2. Introduction

2.1 Background

Morris Goding Access Consulting has been engaged to provide an accessibility design review of the proposed development.

The development consists of the demolition and rebuilding of the Boathouse restaurant in Governor Philip Part at Palm Beach. The development incorporates a boat hire business and is an office for an existing seaplane charter service.

The development falls under the following BCA classifications and is to be confirmed by the PCA:

- Class 5 –Offices.
- Class 6 Restaurant.

The general building access requirements for the above classifications are:

- Class 5 and 6: to and within all areas normally used by the occupants.

The requirements of this review is to:

- Review supplied drawings of the proposed development;
- Provide a report that will analyse the provisions of disability design of the development, and
- Recommend solutions that will ensure the design complies with the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA), Building Code of Australia (BCA), relevant Australian Standards.

2.2 Objectives

This report seeks to ensure compliance with statutory requirements, and in addition, considers enhanced benchmark requirements set by the project. It considers the building user groups and attempts to deliver equality, independence and functional access for people with disability; inclusive of:

- People with a mobility impairment (ambulant and wheelchair);
- People with a sensory impairment (hearing and vision); and
- People with a dexterity impairment.

The report seeks to provide compliance with the Disability Discrimination Act. In doing so, it attempts to eliminate, as far as possible, discrimination against persons on the ground of disability.



2.3 Limitations

This report is limited to the accessibility provisions of the building in general. It does not provide comment on detailed design issues such as the internals of accessible toilets, ambulant toilets, fit-out, lift specification, slip resistant floor finishes, door schedules, hardware and controls, glazing, luminance contrast, stair nosing, TGSIs, handrail design, signage etc. that will be included in construction documentation.

2.4 Statutory Requirements

The relevant statutory and regulatory requirements are:

- Federal Disability Discrimination Act (DDA).
- Disability (Access to Premises Buildings) Standards 2010.
- Building Code of Australia (BCA) Part D3, E3, F2.
- AS 1428.1:2009 General Requirement for Access.
- AS 1428.4.1:2009 Tactile Ground Surface Indicators.
- AS 2890.6:2009 Parking for People with Disabilities.
- Local Council DCP.

Additional advisory standards not currently referenced, and other relevant guidelines considered include:

- Universal Design Principles.
- Premises Standard Guideline V2 2013.
- Guide to the BCA.



3. General Access Planning Considerations

The Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (DDA) is a legislative law that protects the rights of all people. The Act makes disability discrimination unlawful and promotes equal rights, equal opportunity and equal access for people with disabilities. The Australian Human Right Commission is the governing body who control and enforce DDA compliance.

Nevertheless, building elements that provide insufficient accessible provisions for people with disabilities remain subject to the DDA. The improvement of non-compliant building elements and areas to meet current access requirements will mitigate the risk of a DDA complaint be made against the building owner.

Since the 1st of May 2011, the Commonwealth's Disability (Access to Premises – Buildings) Standards 2010 (DDA Premises Standards) apply to all new building works and to affected parts of existing buildings.

The requirements of the DDA Premises Standards (DDA Access Code) are mirrored in the access provisions of the BCA. New building work and affected parts must comply with the DDA Premises Standards and AS1428.1:2009 in the same manner as they would comply with the BCA by meeting deemed-to-satisfy provisions or by adopting an alternative solution that achieves the relevant performance requirements.

By utilising AS 1428 suite of Standards, the overall aim is to provide continuous accessible paths of travel to connect the proposed development to and through public domain areas and between associated accessible buildings in accordance with the DDA Access Code.

MGAC supports the use and consideration of universal design (UD) principles into the design to maximise access for all people. We will assist the design team to incorporate UD principles where possible within the project, while still meeting mandatory compliance requirements.

Universal design principles consider the needs of a broad range of people including older people, families with children and pushing prams, people from other cultures and language groups, visitors in transit and people with disability. By considering the diversity of users, the design will embed access into and within it, so that benefits can be maximised, without adding on specialised 'accessible' features that can be costly, visually unappealing and may perpetuate exclusion and potential stigma.

The seven key Universal design principles to consider in the on-going design include:

- Principle 1 Equitable Use
- Principle 2 Flexibility in Use
- Principle 3 Simple and Intuitive Use
- Principle 4 Perceptible Information
- Principle 5 Tolerance for Error
- Principle 6 Low Physical Effort
- Principle 7 Size and Space for Approach and use.



4. Ingress & Egress

4.1 External Linkages

The BCA and the Premises Standards have requirements for external approaches. The key requirements are:

An accessible path of travel is required to be provided:

- From the main pedestrian entry points at the allotment boundary to all building entrances.
- Between accessible buildings (or parts of buildings).
- From accessible car parking spaces to the building entrance.

Assessment:

Capable of achieving compliance.

Accessible path from the allotment boundary to all building entrances has been provided.

Confirm all details at further design stages.

4.2 Entrances

The BCA and the Premises Standards have requirements for building entrances. The key requirements are:

- Access through no less than 50% of all entrances, including the principal pedestrian entrance.
- For buildings greater than 500msq, a non-accessible entrance must be located less than 50m from an accessible entrance.
- Doors to have a minimum 850mm clear opening width and compliant door circulation spaces.

<u>Assessment:</u>

Capable of achieving compliance.

The entrances to the boathouse restaurant and boat hire appear appropriate.

Confirm all details at further design stages.



5. Paths of Travel

5.1 Circulation Areas

The BCA and the Premises Standards have requirements for accessible paths of travel. The key requirements are:

- A minimum of 1000mm clear path width be provided along an accessible path.
- A 1500x1500mm turning space be provided for a wheelchair to make a 90 degree turn.
- A 1540x2070mm turning spaces be provided for a wheelchair to make a 180 degree turn within 2m of an end of corridor and at maximum 20m intervals along an access path.
- 1800 x 2000 passing spaces be provided at maximum 20m intervals when a direct line of sight is not available.
- Accessible doors to have a minimum of 850mm clear opening width to the active leaf and appropriate door circulation areas.

<u>Assessment:</u>

Capable of achieving compliance.

The circulation spaces along paths of travel appear appropriate.

Confirm all details at further design stages.

5.2 Passenger Lifts

The BCA and the Premises Standards have requirements for passenger lifts. The key requirements are:

- A minimum of 1100 x 1400mm lift car size for lifts travelling less than 12m.
- Lift access features be complaint with BCA E3.6 and AS 1735.12.
- Passenger lift be provided for floor area greater than 200sqm for offices.

<u>Assessment:</u>

The proposed first floor has a floor area of 209msq. A performance solution has been provided for the omission of a lift as required for areas greater than 200msq. Refer MGAC Performance Solutions Report: MGAC Performance Solution Station Beach Boat House Upper Floor Access1.



5.3 Stairs

The BCA and the Premises Standards have requirements for communication stairs. The key requirements are:

- Handrail and handrail extensions be provided on both sides of the stairway.
- Contrasting nosing strip at the edge of the stair riser.
- Tactile indicators with appropriate contrast be provided at the top and bottom of stairway.
- Stairs to set back 900mm from the allotment boundary to ensure handrail extensions and tactile indicators does not encroach into the transverse path of travel.

Assessment:

Capable of achieving compliance.

Confirm all details at further design stages.

5.4 Ramps

The BCA and the Premises Standards have requirements for ramp access. The key requirements are:

- A maximum grade of 1:14 and landings at maximum 9m intervals
- Handrails, handrail extensions and kerb rails on both sides.
- Landing lengths of 1200mm or 1500mm.
- Tactile indicators at the top and bottom of ramp.
- Ramps are required to set back 900mm from the allotment boundary to ensure handrail extensions and tactile indicators do not encroach into the transverse path of travel.

<u>Assessment:</u>

Capable of achieving compliance.

Confirm all details at further design stages.



6. Amenities and Facilities

6.1 Sanitary Facilities

The BCA and the Premises Standards have requirements for sanitary facilities. The key requirements are:

- Unisex accessible toilets:
 - 1 unisex accessible toilet be provided on each storey where toilets are provided.
 - Appropriate 1900 x 2300mm clear circulation spaces.
 - If more than 1 bank of toilets are provided on each level, accessible toilet is required at minimum 50% of those banks of toilets.
 - An even number of left hand (LH) and right hand (RH) toilet pan transfers is required throughout the building.
- Ambulant toilets:
 - A male and female ambulant toilets are required where a bank of toilet are provided in addition to the accessible toilet.
 - Appropriate 900 x 900mm clear circulation spaces in front of toilet pans and at doorways.

Assessment:

Unisex accessible toilets:

Capable of achieving compliance.

Ambulant toilets:

Capable of achieving compliance.

Confirm all details at subsequent design stages.



6.2 Signage

The BCA and the Premises Standards have signage requirements. The key requirements are:

- Signage be provided to all male, female, accessible and ambulant toilets. It is to include:
 - · Braille and tactile.
 - · International symbol of access.
 - · 'LH' or 'RH' to indicate a left-hand or right-hand transfer onto toilet pan.
 - Appropriate font size.
- At required fire exits.
- Where hearing augmentation systems are provided.
- Ensure all signage is detectable with raised symbols and 30% luminance contrast to its background, and in turn, contrasts with the background wall surface.
- Directional signage is required at:
 - · Banks of toilets without an accessible toilet, to direct person to the nearest accessible toilet.
 - Non-accessible entrances to direct persons to an accessible entrance.
- Signage to be located on the wall, adjacent to latch side of the door, between 1200 1600mm AFFL (or for single line of tactile text: located between 1250 1350mm AFFL).

Assessment:

Signage details is not provided at this early stage of the design process.

Confirm all details at further design stages.

6.3 Accessible Car Parking Spaces

The BCA and the Premises Standards have requirements for the provision of accessible car parking spaces. The key requirements are:

- Class 5 office: 1:100 or part thereof.
- Class 6 retail: 1:50 or part thereof.
- An accessible car parking spaces requires a 2400 x 5400mm parking space and shared area.

<u>Assessment:</u>

Two (2) accessible car parking spaces are provided and appear appropriate.

Confirm all details at further design stages.



7. Conclusion

MGAC has reviewed the proposed development. The drawings indicate that access requirements can readily be achieved subject to the recommendations within this report being addressed during further design stages.

It is advised that MGAC will work with the project team as the scheme progresses to ensure appropriate outcomes are achieved through the developmental design stages and during the construction phase.



8. Marked Plans





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