Part 1  General

1.1  Summary

.1 Unless otherwise indicated, follow the standards below when planning for stairs and ramps. These standards are not intended to restrict or replace professional judgment.

.2 These guidelines should be read with the specific technical sections of McGill’s Building Design and Technical Standards.

1.2  Design Requirements for Stairs and Ramps

.1 All interior and exterior stair treads and landings must have slip resistant surfaces.

.2 For all new and existing exterior stairs and ramps install the following visual aids:

.1 Seventy percent (70%) colour contrasting, nosing strips at the top and bottom of stairs and ramps; using either inserts, epoxy adhesives or other non-slip products. Yellow colour strips are preferred.

.2 Tactile paving is a system of textured ground surface indicators found on many footpaths, stairs and train/metro station platforms to assist pedestrians who are visually impaired. Use tactile paving on all landings at the tops of stairs and ramps. Provide a 600mm wide band of tactile paving, at 300mm from the edge of the top landing. In retrofit projects, the width of the band can be reduced to not less than 300mm, but must be approved by McGill prior to tender.

.3 Proposed installation of visual aids and tactile paving in or around historic buildings must be approved by McGill prior to tender.

.3 For ramps where neither guards nor handrails are not required by the Quebec Construction Code, provide 50mm high curbs to delineate the edges of the ramp. A curb is not required on an edge of a ramp which runs directly adjacent to a wall.

Part 2  Related Technical Sections

The technical sections of the McGill Building Design and Technical Standards should be consulted with the current document, most notably (but not limited to) the following:

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