



**WESTERN CAPE
ASSOCIATION FOR
PERSONS WITH
DISABILITIES**

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**Views and opinions
expressed in
this newsletter are
those of the writer,
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views of the
Association,
it's staff,
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or members.**

Focus on...

Accessible parking

Recommended Quantity /ratios of parking bays

All local authorities and private sector provide parking bays reserved for motorists that are disabled as per the ratio below.

TOTAL NO. OF PARKING SPACES PRO-	MINIMUM NO. OF ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACES
1 to 25	1
26 to 50	2
51 to 75	3
75 to 100	4
101 to 150	5
151 to 200	6
201 to 300	7
301 to 400	8
401 to 500	9
501 to 1000	2% of total
1001 and over	20, plus 1 for each 100 over 1000

Location of Parking Bays

Accessible parking spaces serving a particular building shall be located on the shortest possible accessible route from adjacent parking to an accessible entrance, not more than 50 metres from the entrance.

In buildings with multiple entrances with adjacent parking, accessible parking spaces shall be dispersed and located closest to the accessible entrances.

In parking facilities that do not serve a particular building, accessible parking spaces shall be located on the shortest accessible route to an accessible pedestrian entrance of the parking facility, not more than 50 metres from the entrance.

Spatial and Physical Requirements

SIZE

Parking bays are to be standard length and no narrower than 3500mm so as to allow space for transfer from a car to a wheelchair or downloading a person seated in wheelchair when ramps or hoists are used. (The space also allows for space to "swing out" legs if a person makes use of assistive devices or calipers).

Alternatively, a situation can exist where two adjacent bays of the standard width of 2500mm can be separated by an access aisle of 1000mm.

Their ground surface is to be no steeper than 1:40, with no changes in level.

Where lighting is provided in car parks, it shall be in accordance with SABS0114-1.



SIGNAGE

The parking spaces are to be identified by signs incorporating the International Symbol of Accessibility in both the following ways :

- The ground surface in yellow road marking paint at least 1000mm in width and the wheelchair symbol should be at least 600mm wide
- A post mounted sign at the front of the bay at a minimum height of 2.1m above ground surface measured to the bottom of the sign. It is not absolutely necessary to have a pole mounted sign but it helps a great deal.

It is vital that the correct sign of the Road Traffic Act is displayed for law enforcement to be enforced against abusers.R323-P used in parking areas and R323 off public roads.

Types of permits

There are two types of parking permits

1. Traffic Blue Colour – for permanently disabled driver / passenger
2. Red Colour – for temporarily disabled driver / passenger

Policing and Public Awareness

Members of the public need to be educated about parking illegally in these bays. Without the wider bays someone in a wheelchair cannot even get out of his car.

This is not a matter of convenience for the persons with the disability, but rather a human right to access the same facilities on an equal basis with others.

