

## **6.0 Public Domain and Outdoor Access**

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### **6.1 Introduction**

Access as a basic human right extends to the built aspects of the outdoor environment. It includes external paths and links to facilities, and venues and buildings, as well as access to parks and outdoor venues and experiences.

The proposed AS 1428 Part 7 Outdoor Access will include a number of Parts to include scope and general concepts, streetscapes and pedestrian access, playgrounds, aquatic facilities, and access to environmental parks and walking tracks.

### **6.2 Principles**

Key elements of access in the outdoor environment include the provision of:

- footpaths that provide a continuous accessible path of travel with links to accessible parking and transport facilities, accessible sanitary facilities and unique built features, such as swimming pools and picnic areas
- accessible nodes which facilitate an experience of an outdoor area which is the same as or as similar to that offered to other users in high conservation areas and the like
- accessible parking spaces, set down areas and bus parking areas
- accessible rest seating
- information both off- and on-site with regard to distances, surfaces, gradients and key features on walking tracks
- accessible sanitary facilities and accessible change facilities
- accessible outdoor furniture and fittings, such as waste disposal bins, drinking fountains, picnic tables, barbecues, play equipment and the like
- shelter at major nodes
- accessible viewing platforms or systems to create an alternative experience when aspects of the site are inaccessible owing to the topography, preservation of the area and the like.

### **6.3 Playgrounds**

A continuous accessible path of travel is required to all playgrounds, and a choice of accessible equipment shall be provided for varying age groups who may be using mobility equipment, including wheelchairs.

All changes in level on the accessible path of travel requiring ramps and stairs are to include double height handrails.

Paths of travel are to include sufficient width or appropriately spaced passing bays for wheelchairs, strollers and the like.

Rest seating, including a backrest and armrests, is to be provided adjacent to all playgrounds (preferably with shade provided) and linked to the accessible path of travel.

## **6.4 Landscaping and Surfaces**

### **6.4.1 Paths**

Paths are required to be:

- maintained with surfaces that are hard or firm, even, tractionable, slip resistant and free of debris and tree roots
- clear of hazards such as furniture, signs and overhanging vegetation
- maintained with a 2000 mm clear vertical height from the path surface to any vegetation (measured when wet) or overhead hazard
- compliant with the requirements of AS 1428.1 and shall not include steps, but shall include complying ramps or walkways at changes in level and where the gradient is steep
- with a crossfall not exceeding 1:33 where the surface is a bituminous seal, but not exceeding 1:40 for other surface materials
- maintained with widths and passing bays to facilitate use by wheelchair users
- provided with adequate sightlines and signage to indicate when paths are shared with bikes
- provided with features to assist people who are blind or have low vision, TGSIs to comply with AS 1428.4, luminance contrast where appropriate and the like
- provided with ground abutting the sides of the walkway, which follows the grade of the walkway and extends horizontally for 600 mm, where no kerb and handrail are provided. Alternatively a low kerb edge may be installed complying with AS 1428.1.

### **6.4.2 Lighting.**

See Section 4.5 Lighting.

### **6.4.3 Signage.**

See Section 4.6 Signage.

### **6.4.4 Amenities.**

See Section 3 Amenities.