Overview of Issues Encountered by Pedestrians with Disabilities in Work Zones

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Pedestrians with disabilities

- Mobility disabilities
- Visual disabilities
- Cognitive disabilities
Key Work Zone Issues for Pedestrians with Disabilities

- **Q1:** Is there an alternate route?

- **Q2:** Is the alternate route accessible?
Q1: Is there an alternate route?
Is the sidewalk blocked with no marked alternate route?
Is there a barrier preventing pedestrians from entering work zone?
Is an alternate route defined? ...detectable?
Defined and detectable
Defined and detectable
Route information in usable formats?

Not if you can’t read the sign or see across the street
Route information may be provided by clearly delineated path
Information in usable formats
Same-side route...or cross?
If crossing, may need accessible pedestrian signal

- New types are pushbutton-integrated
- Have to be able to reach the pushbutton to use them
- Sounds come from pushbutton
Extent of the detour...where does it start...and end?
Q2: Is the alternate route accessible?
Is the alternate route accessible?
Is the route continuous and unobstructed?
Wide enough for passage?

- At least five feet wide
- Six feet more comfortable
Usable curb ramps?
Usable curb ramps....
Free of hazardous protruding objects?
Better than some, but …..?

- Good guidance from lower and upper rail for most of it, but missing a key piece
- Oops! Lip in sidewalk section
Example - not a good start....
But with a little feedback...a great improvement
Ramped with smooth transitions....
Resources and Information

- MUTCD Part 6
- Draft Public Rights-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines
  - US Access Board Technical Assistance at (800) 872-2253 or row@access-board.gov
Questions?

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