

Curb Ramp Legislation



Photo by John Skelton



Seattle Department of
Construction & Inspections

Seattle City Council PLUZ Committee
Elizabeth Sheldon, SDOT & Eric Engmann, SDCI | September 19, 2018

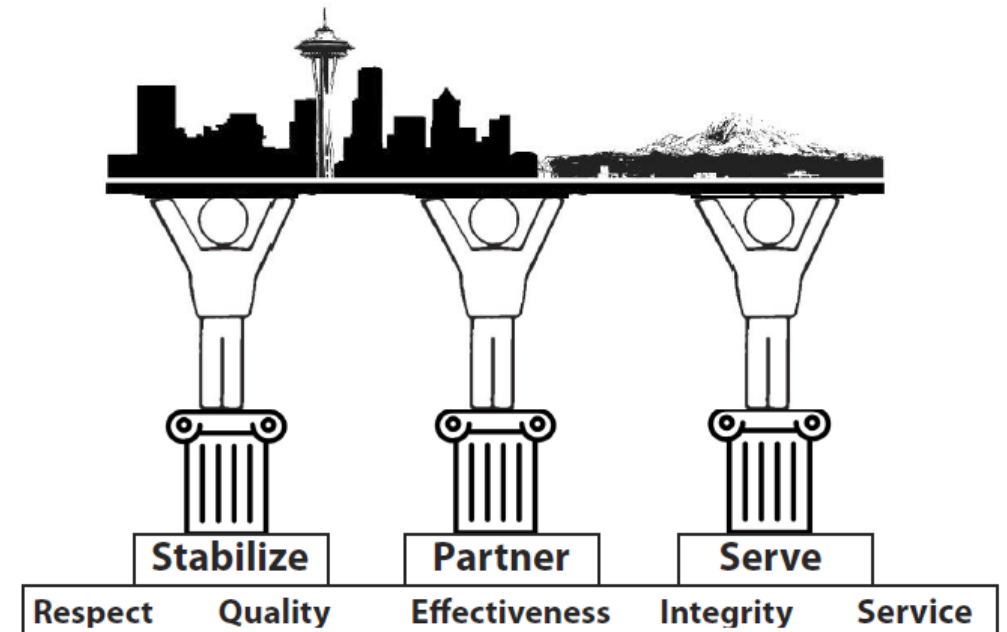
SDCI PURPOSE AND VALUES

Our Purpose

As stewards and regulators of land and buildings, we preserve and enhance equity, livability, safety, and health of our communities.

Our Values

- Respect
- Quality of work
- Equity
- Integrity
- Service



Background

- **Goal: Accessible Pedestrian Networks**
including sidewalks, curb ramps, detectible warnings, street crossings
 - Important for Age-Friendly and Accessible Community
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- City has 2,300 miles of sidewalks
 - Approximately 800 miles of unimproved surfaces
 - 30,000 curb ramps
 - 40,000 sidewalks end without curb ramps
 - City must install 1,250 curb ramps annually

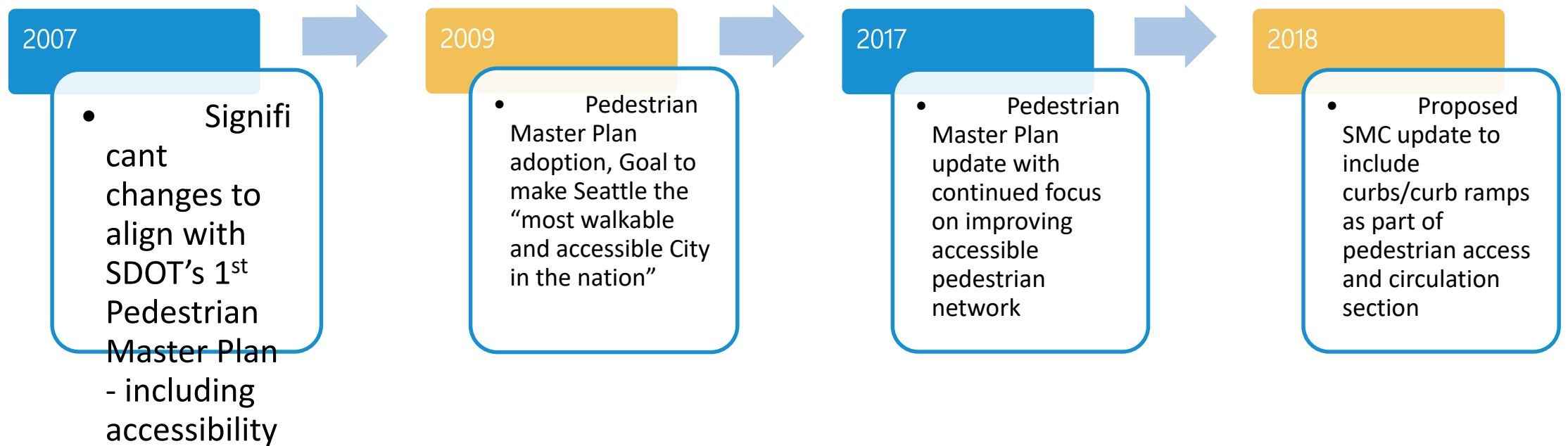


Current Code Requirements

- Does not require curbs or curb ramps for all eligible developments – existing language needs strengthening
- Curbs and curb ramps are only listed as one of many options for possible improvements
- Curb ramps and other accessible features are not clearly defined



History of Pedestrian Access Changes



Proposed Changes

What would this accomplish?

- Explicitly calls out curb ramps and curbs as a part of the pedestrian access and circulation requirements
- Construct new curbs and curb ramps abutting corner lot development projects
- Development Inside Urban Centers and Urban Villages must also:
 - Improve existing sidewalks, curbs, and curb ramps to current standards (ROWIM)
- Defines accessibility terms and makes other minor changes to add clarity

Does not amend the types of projects currently exempted from these requirements

Public Outreach

Advocacy Groups

SDOT Email to 15 Local Advocacy Groups – January 18th

Seattle Commission for People with DisAbilities – January 18th

Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board – February 6th

Seattle Pedestrian Access Board – February 14th

Seattle Pedestrian Access Advisory Committee – March 12th

Builders Organizations

Master Builders Association - March 18th and May 16th

SDCI Newsletter – March 18th



QUESTIONS?

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