

PUBLIC COMMENT
October 11, 2010
Gainesville, Florida

Ben Ritter, Florida Gulf Coast Paralyzed Veterans of America

1. Recommend amending 553.5041(6), Parking spaces for persons who have disabilities– and 11-4.6.4 Signage – to clarify that correct markings for accessible parking spaces have both white and blue stripes; “..,must be striped in white and prominently outlined in blue...” This amendment would clarify the intention of both the statute and the code.
2. Recommend amending 553.504(5)(c)1 and 11-5.6.3 to clarify that access aisles must be striped in white: “The access aisle shall be striped diagonally in white to designate it as a no parking zone.”
3. “Van accessible” signs are not necessary in Florida outside of parking structures and spaces with height limitations because all of Florida’s 12’ and 5’ spaces are van accessible. Recommend amending 11-4.6.4 Signage – Add: “Van accessible signs are not required outside of parking structures.”
4. Wheelchair users have difficulty closing doors behind them when they pull into a toilet room or stall when the door opens out. Recommend amending statute to require door pulls be installed on the hinge side of the doors to accessible toilet rooms. Also amend 11-4.17.5 Doors (to toilet stalls) – Add the above language. This is a cheap, easy fix and would enhance the FACBC.
5. Wheelchair users have difficulty transferring to hotel beds that are over 24” high. Recommend limiting hotel bed heights. Range 21”-24” to top of mattress.
6. Wheelchair users have difficulty maneuvering in and out of hotel beds. Back boards with vertical bars that can be gripped are very helpful. Recommend amending appropriate statute(s).