

For vertical accessibility, the Florida Building Code (FBC 201.1.1.1) and Florida Statute (F.S. 553.501-553.513) are more stringent than ADA Standards. FBC and F.S. require vertical accessibility for all levels of altered areas in existing buildings. Meanwhile, ADA Section 206.2.3 Exception 1 exempts the project from vertical accessibility due to its size and function (less than 3,000 square feet and not a shopping center, shopping mall, health care provider office, terminal, depot, public transportation facility, or airport).

Therefore, the owner has applied for an Accessibility Waiver with the State of Florida, so that the Florida specific vertical accessibility requirement may be waived down to the ADA Standards.

In addition, while vertical accessibility provisions (ramp, elevator, wheel lift, or stairlift) are physically possible to construct in the space, they would create spatial constraints and are not economically feasible. The vertical accessibility provisions would reduce valuable usable area on Level 1 (1,262 sf) and Level 2 (875 sf), negatively impacting business operations. Additionally, reconfiguring existing load-bearing structural members to accommodate vertical accessibility provisions would be cost prohibitive to the owner. Additionally, proposed plan and life safety path is driven by the location of existing load bearing walls. Adding vertical accessibility provisions would impede proposed life safety path of travel path.

Note, the office will not be accessible to the public, and Chang Robotics employees primarily work remotely. The office primarily provides temporary workspace for visiting and remote employees.

Considering the break room and restroom are both on Level 1, the owner can offer reasonable accommodation for any employee with accessibility challenges, such as hosting team meetings and setting up an office workstation on Level 1, as required.

\*Note, as of August 15, 2025, the owner has purchased the adjacent unit at 422 3<sup>rd</sup> St South. The owner will build out the second unit and combine both units (420 and 422) into a single, larger office. Architect has incorporated a wheelchair lift into the 422 plan which will provide vertical accessibility for the combined office space. Therefore, the owner requests a waiver of vertical accessibility for the Phase 1 office build-out (420 3<sup>rd</sup> St South) and will provide vertical accessibility in the Phase 2 build-out (422 3<sup>rd</sup> St South).