



## City of Santa Rosa

### Outdoor Seating Accessibility Guidelines

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#### Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide an overview of the accessibility requirements that typically apply to outdoor seating. The document is not intended to act as a complete code summary and the business operator is ultimately responsible for ensuring that the site maintains compliance with accessibility requirements outlined in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

#### Design Guidelines

- **Number of Accessible Seats**

Each site shall incorporate the appropriate number of accessible seats throughout the outdoor seating area. The ratios below shall apply to each seating area that defines a separate experience. For example, outdoor seating is viewed as a different eating experience than traditional indoor dining. The outdoor seating area must provide accessible seating as described below. If the site currently has existing compliant accessible outdoor seats, an expansion of the outdoor seating will not require additional accessible seating unless the total number of seats in the proposal creates the need. The project must incorporate outdoor seating ratios as shown below:

Total Number of Seats Provided	Number of Accessible Seats Required
Up to 25	1
26 – 50	2
51 – 150	4
151 – 300	5

- **Table Clearance**

All accessible seating shall maintain a certain amount of clearance around and under the associated table.

Measurement	Requirement
Height	28" minimum – 34" Maximum
Clear space for wheelchair approach	48" deep x 30" wide

Clear space must be provided for footrests and knees. Pedestal tables typically do not usually comply with this requirement.

- **Accessible Paths**

The following requirements apply to and from any accessible space, area, table, or restroom. Providing accessible locations closest to the entry point of the building may provide the most compliant path of travel for proposals that involve the temporary placement of outdoor seating.

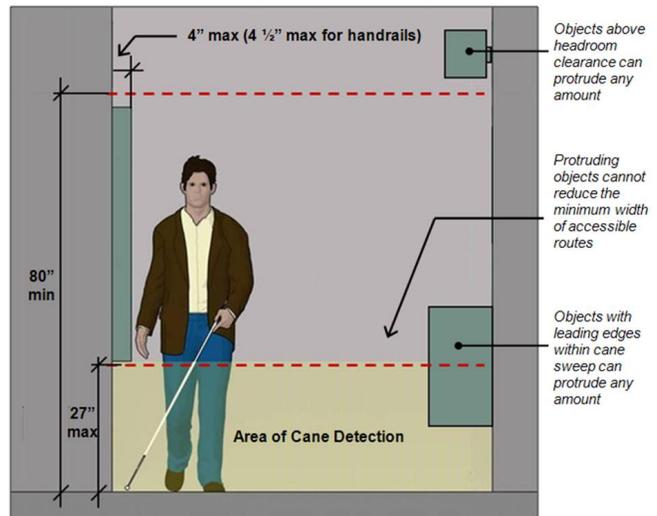
Measurement	Requirement
Width	Minimum 36"
Slope – direction of travel	Maximum 1:20 (5%) in direction of travel
Slope – cross slope	Maximum 1:48 (2%)
Height Clearance:	No elements (umbrellas, lighting, decorations, etc.) shall overhang accessible paths lower than 80" from the walking surface

If payments or any transactions are to be executed away from an accessible table, area, or space, the payment location must meet all requirements for height, width, approach, and access like an accessible table.

- **Barrier Indicators**

Tables and chairs placed in or near accessible paths can create difficulties for individuals with sight impairments. They may use a cane to help find their way. There are specific ways in which items in or along the path of travel are identified.

The Image to the right is published on the United States Access Board website. Picture the bottom of a 28" high table protruding into the area of pedestrian travel. Tables of this height are slightly above the 27" max cane detection area and do not provide the appropriate indicator.



To address the need to identify protruding objects like tabletops, some sort of fixture, or temporary item like fencing, shall be placed in a manner that warns individuals with sight impairments. Decorative planter boxes occupying the cane detection area can also be used when placed in a fashion that recognizes the direction of travel on along the sidewalk.