



## *Florida Department of Transportation*

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### **TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN**

RE: Accessible Parking Spaces for Disabled Travelers - Florida Requirements

The standards in effect in Florida that govern the layout of accessible parking spaces are the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), the Florida Accessibility Code for Building Construction (FACBC, formerly Chapter 11 of the Florida Building Code), and s. 553.5041, Florida Statutes.

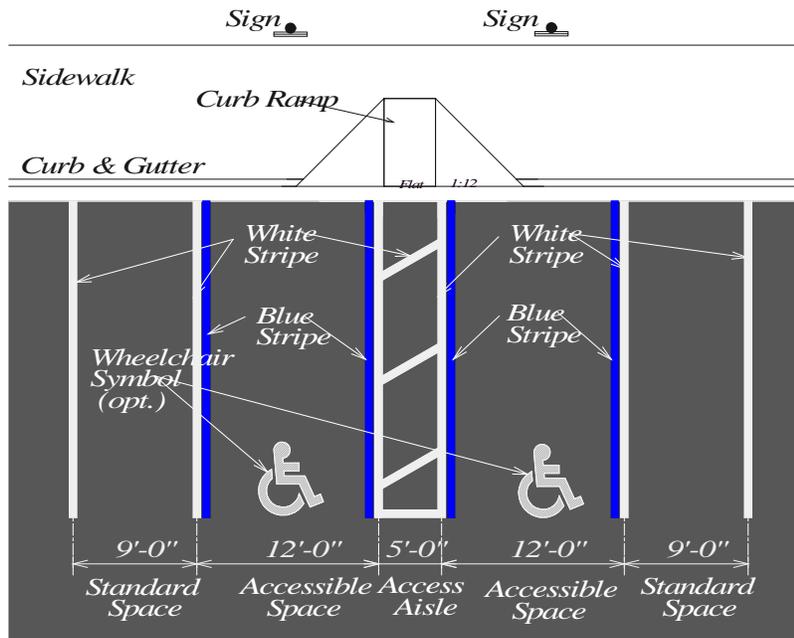
The MUTCD is published by the USDOT Federal Highways Administration. It is a national standard for pavement markings, signage and traffic signals to "help insure highway safety by providing for the orderly and predictable movement of traffic...." It applies to the "national highway transportation system". As required by state law (s. 336.045 F.S. and s. 316.006 F.S.), FDOT has adopted the MUTCD as a state standard. FDOT adoption of the MUTCD applies to public parking spaces and to private parking spaces available for public use.

MUTCD section 3B-18 "Parking Space Markings" states that **'Parking space markings shall be white.'** This is intended to apply to parking spaces (on-street, off-street, parallel, diagonal and perpendicular, etc.) and accessory markings. The MUTCD also provides an option: **"Blue lines may supplement white parking space markings of each parking space designated for use only by persons with disabilities."** Note that the blue markings may 'supplement' the white markings, *not* replace them.

Sections 553.501-553.513 Florida Statutes, describe the accessibility requirements in Florida. S. 553.5041(6) *requires* that accessible parking spaces **"...must be prominently outlined with blue paint, and must be repainted when necessary, to be clearly distinguishable as a parking space designated for persons who have disabilities...."** This requirement is repeated in the FACBC in Section 11-4.6.4 of the Florida Building Code.

S. 553.5041(5)(c)1 requires that the **"...access aisle must be striped diagonally to designate it as a no-parking zone."** Note there is no direction in Statute as to the number of diagonal lines or diagonal stripe angle or direction.

Considering the above: in Florida, all accessible parking spaces **must** be designated with blue paint. In this case, Florida law is applied *in addition* to the standard described in MUTCD. The correct markings for accessible parking spaces have **both** white and blue stripes and access aisles are marked in white. Usually this is applied with the blue paint 'inside' the white paint for the space (see drawing below, which illustrates the Florida Department of Transportation Design Standard, Index 17346.)



*Accessible Parking Spaces  
(as described in FDOT Standards)*

**NOTES TO DRAWING:**

*According to the MUTCD, the pavement markings for the parking space and the access aisle (blue and white stripes) may be either 4" or 6".*

*If used, a ground-level wheelchair symbol should be white.*

*If there is a curb, there must be a curb ramp (1:12 max. slope) outside the space and access aisle. A perpendicular curb ramp must have flared sides (1:12 max. slope) if pedestrians may cross it transversely.*

*A pair of parallel curb ramps may also be used (w/5'-0" landing at the bottom). Wheel stops should be used to limit vehicular encroachment on the sidewalk.*

FDOT Design Standards show dimensions to the centerline between two adjacent stripes. This is intended primarily for double lines between travel lanes on a roadway. For parking spaces, it is appropriate to dimension to the centerline of the white stripes and then add the blue stripes.

Also, as described above, the Florida accessible parking space provides the space for an automobile or a lift-equipped van. Therefore, a 'van accessible' sign and an 8' access aisle are not required. The standard for accessible parking in Florida is a 12' minimum parking space with an adjacent 5' minimum access aisle. Two accessible parking spaces may share an access aisle.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Florida Department of Transportation

H. Dean Perkins, Architect  
A.D.A. Coordinator