



**STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**BUREAU OF ENGINEERING**  
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**JOHN C. SCHROER**  
COMMISSIONER

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GOVERNOR

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** November 7, 2014

**TO:** Bureau of Engineering and the  
Bureau of Environment and Planning

**FROM:** Paul D. Degges, P.E. *PDD*  
Deputy Commissioner and Chief Engineer

**RE: Public Right of Way Standards**

Effective immediately, the Department of Transportation will begin using the Proposed Accessibility Guidelines for Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Right-of Way”, which were printed in the July 26, 2011 as our standard ROW guidelines.

You can obtain a copy of these standards at [www.access-board.gov](http://www.access-board.gov) or by contacting our ADA Coordinator, Ms. Margaret Mahler, at 741-4984 or at [Margaret.Z.Mahler@tn.gov](mailto:Margaret.Z.Mahler@tn.gov).

When the previous ADA Accessibility Guidelines, 28 CFR part 36, 1994 were updated in 2010, the new standards did not address ROW standards, only vertical ones. The adoption of these new standards will give the needed guidance for ROW without the requirement of vertical standards.

Until the standards are adopted by the Department of Justice, FHWA has allowed each state DOT to adopt the PROWAG 2011 standards to ensure consistent application of the ADA. TDOT chose to adopt the new standards across the board in all plans, contract documents, and local guidelines.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

PDD/MM/jc

**Cc:** Mr. Toks Omishakin  
Ms. Margaret Mahler