

## **PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION AND RESOLUTION**

The Accessibility, Transportation and Services Standing Committee proposes the Citizen's Advisory Commission on Disability approve the following recommendation be made to the city manager for consideration:

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To: Patrick West, City Manager

From: Citizen's Advisory Commission on Disability (CACoD)

Submitted by: David Gauthier, Chairperson, CACoD

Date: September 14, 2017

Subject: Use of detectable warning truncated domes

### **RECOMMEDATION**

Standard Plan be updated to include the use of more than one size, shape and spacing or removal of truncated domes from detectable warnings as appropriate.

### **FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION**

Minimal fiscal impacts

### **IMPACT ON ACCESSABILITY FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND OTHERS**

Installation of truncated domes which vary in size and shape will provide a more accessible route for individuals who use a manual or electric wheelchair. Variation in size and shape of truncated domes will continue to provide detectable warnings to individuals who are blind/low vision.



*A set of yellow truncated domes can be seen on the down-ramp in a parking lot.*

### **CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS**

The current Standard Plan states truncated domes have a base diameter of .9 inches, a top diameter of .2 inches, and spacing of 2.35 inches. The current Standard Plan is being updated and intend to move away from the surface mounted domes, which is what we get the most complaints about.

## **BACKGROUND**

The intent of the truncated domes is to warn people with visual impairments of potential hazard when entering the street. People with visual impairments can feel the dots underneath their feet or cane to detect the crosswalk.

A resident communicated concern about the height of the surface mounted truncated domes. When crossing the street wheelchair front wheels are small and may not be able ride over the beveled edges and domes easily.

The Commission is not aware of an incident in Long Beach, however, individuals who use manual wheelchairs could trip on the dots. The domes may trigger muscle spasms for some people with spinal cord injury.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**

New and replaced detectable warnings should have no different lifespan than older ones.

## **RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION**

United States Access Board specifications for detectable warning truncated domes provide a range base diameter of 0.9 inch (23 mm) to 1.4 inch (36 mm), a top diameter of 50 percent of the base diameter minimum to 65 percent of the base diameter maximum. Domes can have a center-to-center spacing of 1.6 inches (41 mm) to 2.4 inches (61 mm), and a base-to-base spacing of 0.65 inch (17mm) minimum, measured between the most adjacent domes on a square grid.

This specification provides for variation of the size, shape and spacing of domes. The City currently uses one size, shape and spacing for all detectable warning installations. Residents have expressed a desire for different size, shape and spaced domes in specific neighborhoods. Installing the necessary variation of domes requested by residents of a neighborhood will provide a more accessible and easily traversed path.

## **ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED**

Continue using the same size and style of truncated domes.

## **CONTACT PERSONS**

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Heather Blackmun, Citywide ADA/Title VI Coordinator