

# Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Pedestrian Facilities

## ADA LAW/PennDOT REQUIRES:

- New construction must be accessible and usable by persons with disabilities.
- Alterations to existing facilities, within the scope or limits of a project, must provide usability to the maximum extent feasible.
- Existing facilities that have not been altered shall not deny access to persons with disabilities.



## TYPES OF CONSTRUCTION:

- New Construction
  - > Off alignment project where existing site conditions will not limit the design.
- Alteration to Existing Facility
  - > Existing site constraints that could limit design.
  - > Must meet requirements of new construction.
  - > Technically infeasible to meet standards-provide access to maximum extent feasible within project scope.

## EXAMPLES:

- Upgrading an existing traffic signal (alteration) - traffic signal equipment must meet latest standards.
- Install a new pedestrian push button (new construction) - must meet latest standards and be accessible. This may include upgrading or installing curb ramps and sidewalk.
- Replacing traffic signal bulbs (maintenance) - no other work is necessary.
- Overlay existing lanes (alteration) - upgrade/install curb ramps for pedestrian paths that cross the overlay area. If driveways and sidewalks are not altered by the overlay project, they do not need to be upgraded only the curb ramps. Access to pedestrian push buttons shall also be addressed.

