

# MIT

# Design Standards

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**Landscape and Site**

**T12 Thematic Folder**

Issued 2022



Department  
of Facilities

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# 1. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

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## 1.1 The Office of Campus Planning

The Office of Campus Planning (OCP) supports the MIT mission by serving as stewards of the evolving physical campus and providing services that guide and inform campus strategy and transformation. Through an inclusive and collaborative process, we pursue the continuing creation of campus spaces that sustain and inspire the exceptional community at MIT.

OCP site design review is required at the concept, schematic design, and design development stages of landscape projects of all scopes. OCP supports site design on capital projects through Construction Documents and Construction Administration phases. In collaboration with Grounds Services, OCP provides site logistics plan review to ensure that campus construction and utility projects minimize disturbance to existing campus open spaces and tree root protection zones.

## 1.2 Public Art Installations

Coordinate with MIT LIST Visual Arts staff for both installation and maintenance of permanent public art installations.

## 1.3 The Grand Junction Railroad Right-of-Way

The Grand Junction Railroad has a right-of-way through the MIT campus and MIT has agreements in place with Keolis Commuter Services and the Massachusetts Department of Transportation. For a map of the right-of-way and construction requirements, coordinate with the Office of Campus Planning.

## 1.4 ADA and MAAB Compliance

Comply with American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the requirements of the Massachusetts Architectural Access Board (MAAB). Contractor shall assume that sidewalk grades will be verified and checked with a 2-foot long electronic ‘smart level’. Where existing conditions make compliant slopes technically infeasible, OCP will work with the project team to address the issue. The intent is to provide and maintain accessible routes on campus.

At MIT:

Slopes: Walkways as defined by Section 22.1 of 521 CMR shall be graded to a maximum of 4.5%. The cross-pitch (perpendicular to travel) for walkways and paths shall be constructed at 1.5%. The slopes of ramps and side slopes on handicap curb cuts as defined by Section 21.1 of 521 CMR shall be constructed at 7% maximum. Ramps as defined in Section 24.1 of 521 CMR shall be constructed to a maximum slope of 7%.

A 5'-0" minimum level, 1.5% pitch, area shall be provided at entrances to buildings. Puddling or ponding of water at the entrances will not be accepted.

MIT Design and Construction Standards for accessible parking areas:

- Comply with all standards above, and
- Accessible parking areas, including their adjacent access aisles, shall be level, with surface slopes not exceeding 1.5% in all directions.

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