#### **CHAPTER 3: GENERAL REGULATIONS**

#### Section 301 Public Toilet Provisions

**301.1 Public toilet – basic provisions, general.** Public toilets should provide clean, safe, accessible, convenient, and hygienic facilities to the public at a level of privacy adequate to perform necessary personal sanitary functions.

**301.1.1 Opening hours.** The opening and closing times of public toilets should be appropriate to local demand and activity patterns. In some areas, fully operational 24-hour facilities should be provided; these can be supplemented by automatic public conveniences, if necessary. Men and women should have equal access to these facilities.

**301.2 Public served.** Public toilet facilities should provide for the needs of people of different cultural needs and genders, all age groups, parents and children, people with disabilities and their care givers.

**301.3 Functionality.** A public toilet should provide facilities for the public to urinate, defecate, clean themselves, groom and tend to other bodily needs in a secure, private and clean environment and should be functional at all times during normal hours of operation. A public toilet should be kept in a hygienic condition at all times to prevent the spread of germs, bacteria, infection and disease. Scheduled maintenance shall be performed to keep facilities in a safe and sanitary condition at all times.

**301.4 Signage.** Required public toilet facilities should be designated by a legible sign for each sex. Signs should be readily visible and located near the entrance to each toilet facility and prominently displayed in main traffic passageways. Signs should be so designed as to utilize a commonly recognized female and/or male figure in dark color contrasted on a light background.

**301.5 Durability.** Public toilets and the fittings, valves, piping, accessories and fixtures for such, should be designed to withstand the effects of the weather, external loads, heavy usage, abuse, vandalism, and other undesired activities.

**301.6 Pay facilities.** Where pay facilities are installed, such facilities should be in excess of the required minimum facilities. Careful consideration should be given to the method of collecting payment for reasons of safety, accessibility and user comfort. Turnstiles should not be installed.

#### Section 302 Interior Environment

**302.1 Temperature control.** Interior spaces intended for human occupancy should be provided with active or passive space-heating systems capable of maintaining a minimum indoor temperature of 18°C (64°F) at a point 914 millimeters (3 feet) above the floor on the design heating day. At a minimum, equipment and systems should be capable of maintaining a temperature above freezing.

## Section 303 Lighting

**303.1 General.** Every space intended for human occupancy should be provided with natural light by means of exterior glazed openings or provided with artificial light in accordance with Section 303.3.

**303.2 Natural light.** When utilizing natural light, the minimum net glazed area should not be less than 8 percent of the floor area of the room served. National standards should be acceptable.

**303.3** Artificial light. When local codes or standards do not regulate lighting, this section shall govern. When utilizing artificial light, it should provide an average illumination of 107 lux (10 foot-candles) over the area of the room at a height of 762 millimeters (30 inches) above the floor level.



**303.4 Emergency lighting.** Emergency illumination devices shall be provided so as to illuminate the necessary path of egress to allow all occupants to exit the public toilet facility in a safe manner.

## Section 304 Ventilation

**304.1 Public toilet rooms.** Public toilet rooms should be ventilated by natural or mechanical means.

**304.2 Natural ventilation.** Natural ventilation of an occupied space should be through windows, doors, louvers or other openings to the outdoors. The operating mechanism for such openings should be provided with access so that the openings are controllable by the building occupants and securable in the event the public toilet room must be secured from vandalism.

**304.3 Mechanical ventilation.** If mechanically ventilated, the air exchange rate should have a minimum of 15 air changes per hour or 35.4 L/s (75 cfm) exhaust per toilet cubicle.

Suitable replacement air should be provided for exhaust systems to ensure a slight negative pressure within the public toilet.

The replacement air may be taken directly from the exterior, or from adjacent spaces that are permanently air-conditioned or naturally ventilated. The replacement air may be drawn through louvers in the doors, walls, door undercuts, or other means.

The exhaust system should dispel the air directly outdoors without causing any nuisance to neighboring premises.

The exhaust air should be discharged to the exterior of the building at a position at least 2 meters (6 feet) above the exterior surface level and at least 5 meters (16 feet) from any opening into the building where the discharge air may re-enter the building such as windows, doors or air intakes.

## Section 305 Interior Space

**305.1 Floors.** Floors should be constructed of waterproof, nonslip surfaces such as ceramic tiles, natural stone, homogeneous tiles, terrazzo or other surfaces that are durable.

**305.2 Walls.** Walls should be covered with ceramic tiles, natural stone, homogeneous tiles, stainless steel, enamel-coated steel panels, glass block, aluminum panels, or other durable surface material of equal resistance.

# Section 306 Dimensions

**306.1 Minimum ceiling heights.** When local code requirements do not address ceiling heights, this section shall prevail. Toilet rooms, storage rooms and other occupiable spaces related to public toilets should be permitted to have a ceiling height of not less than 2134 millimeters (7 feet).

#### Section 307 Privacy

**307.1 Public toilet entry.** Entry to public toilets should be designed with offset entries, cubicles, vestibules or lobbies capable of allowing entry and exiting without making physical contact with surfaces such as walls, doors or people. Occupants in waiting areas or halls should not be able to see through such entry area into the actual toilet. Toilet cubicles, urinals and mirrors should be sited away from the line of sight from the main entrance. Mirrors should be sighted away from sanitary fixtures (water closets, urinals, etc.) whenever possible.

**307.2 Toilet cubicles.** Cubicles or water closet compartments should not be less than 900 millimeters wide (36 inches) and 1524 millimeters deep (60 inches) clear of opened doors. Cubicles should be pro-

vided with easily closeable free-swinging or sliding doors. Doors should have privacy hardware such as latches, sliding deadbolts or other similar locking devices installed. While user-operated locks should be accessible from the inside only, authorized outside key access may be necessary in emergencies or to take an out-of-order cubicle offline. Doors and cubicle partitions should be tightly fitted so as to avoid gaps and openings. Wherever possible, all such cubicle partitions should extend to within 5 centimeters (2 inches) from the floor. Partitions between cubicles should extend to at least 2134 millimeters (7 feet) above the floor level.

#### Section 308 Surrounding Materials

**308.1 Walls.** Walls within 610 millimeters (2 feet) of urinals and water closets should have a smooth, hard, nonabsorbent surface to a height of 1219 millimeters (4 feet) above the floor and, except for structural elements, the materials used in such walls should be of a type that is not adversely affected by moisture. National building codes need to be considered. All toilet rooms should have a moisture-impervious cleanable surface regardless of building code requirements.

## Section 309 Required Accessory Provisions

**309.1 General.** Accessories provided on or within walls, should be installed and sealed to protect structural elements from moisture.

Public toilets should be provided with the accessories listed in Sections 309.2 through 309.8.

**309.2 Waste bins.** Waste bins should be provided inside each male and female toilet and outside toilets located directly below or in close proximity to the washbasin vanity. Sanitary disposal bins should be placed in each female toilet cubicle. Wherever practi-

cal, bins should be installed so as to be vandal resistant. The bins should be operable by means other than hand contact.

**309.3 Hand drying.** A minimum of one hand-dryer blower or paper towel dispenser should be provided near the hand washbasin area.

**309.4 Refuse bins.** A minimum of one refuse bin should be provided near the hand washbasin area. The bin should be vandal resistant and operated by means other than hand contact, such as foot pedal, electronic motion sensor devices or other acceptable methods. A sanitary bin for the disposal of sanitary pads should be provided in each water closet cubicle in the female toilet.

**309.5 Medical sharps disposal.** One medical sharps disposal unit should be provided inside each male and female toilet for the disposal of hypodermic needles and lancets.

**309.6 Soap dispensers.** One soap dispenser should be provided for the first washbasin and should be increased in number by a minimum of one for every two hand washbasins. Soap dispensers should be located in close proximity to basins. Dispensers should either have a transparent reservoir or a clear plastic soap refill indicator window. Soap valves should be made of corrosion-free materials and suited to dispense hand soap.

**309.7 Tissue dispensers or toilet paper holder.** An extra-large toilet paper roll holder, multi-roll capacity or a toilet tissue sheet dispenser of similar capacity should be installed in each water closet cubicle.

**309.8 Water closet/toilet pan seats.** Water closet/toilet pan seats shall be scheduled to be kept clean and disinfected at sufficient intervals. When disposable, one-time-use water closet/seat covers are utilized, dispensers should be installed in each male and female toilet cubicle.



## Section 310 Optional Accessory Provisions

**310.1 Air fresheners.** Automatic air freshener spray units should be directed upwards and away from the travel path of users to avoid direct contact with the hair, face and body.

**310.2 Water closet and urinal sanitizers.** Cakes, tablets and liquid sanitizers placed directly into receptacles should not interfere with the proper function of the fixture nor be corrosive so as to degrade the surface of the fixtures. Liquid sanitizers should not be connected to the water supply of the fixture in a manner that could cause contamination of the potable water supply.

**310.3 Mirrors.** Mirrors or similar reflective surfaces should be provided for proper grooming and hygiene following water closet and urinal usage.

**310.4 Wash areas.** Showers or basins should be provided outside public toilets serving wet markets and beaches.

**310.5 Mop sink.** A sink utilized by maintenance personnel to clean and sanitize public toilets should be provided and housed in a separate compartment or closet.

**310.6 Diaper changing station.** Diaper changing stations, benches or tables should be placed in public toilet rooms in locations where families may utilize the facility.

**310.7 Clothes hooks.** A durable clothes hook of sufficient strength to support a minimum of 6.80 kilograms (15 pounds) should be provided on the back of the door of each toilet cubicle.

# Section 311 Security And Vandalism Measures

#### 311.1 Interior.

**311.2 Lighting.** When natural lighting is not available, interior lighting should be provided at all times during hours of operation and should be bright enough to illuminate entrances, exits, washing areas, cubicle

spaces and other areas where the public may require access. Lighting should be directed to discourage vandalism and areas of concealment.

**311.3 Concealment.** Decorations, such as artificial trees or plants, should be limited in size or to areas to prohibit an area of concealment. When designing public toilets incorporating architectural elements such as walls, partitions and ledges, care should be taken to avoid areas of concealment.

**311.4 Graffiti.** Wherever possible, surfaces covering walls, countertops, toilet cubicle enclosures, partitions and other surfaces in and around all public toilets should utilize graffiti-resistant materials, graffiti-discouraging decoration and coloration schemes.

**311.5 Durability.** All fixtures, accessories, and surfaces should be constructed of durable materials resistant to heavy usage, excessive weight, and possible abuse.

**311.6 Piping.** All interior water supply and drainage piping connected to fixtures such as water closets and washbasins should be concealed whenever possible or otherwise configured to protect against personal contact. All exposed piping should be constructed of durable materials capable of withstanding human impact and should be secured with sturdy fasteners, hangers and supports. There shall be no sharp or abrasive surfaces under washbasins or sinks.

#### Section 312 Exterior

**312.1 Lighting.** When natural lighting is not available, exterior lighting should be provided at all times during hours of operation and should be bright enough to illuminate entrances, exits, walkways, paths, parking spaces and other areas where the public may require access to public toilets. Lighting should be directed to discourage vandalism and areas of concealment. Lighting should be sufficient to avoid trips or falls.

**312.2 Graffiti.** Exterior surfaces of public toilets should be covered or constructed of



durable materials resistant to graffiti (e.g., materials including spray paints, markers, etc.) wherever practicable.

**312.3 Security.** During hours of nonoperation, entry and exit doors and windows to public toilets should be secured by guards, locks or dead bolts to discourage vandalism.

**312.4 Access.** All public toilets should be designed to prohibit persons from accessing roofs, interior spaces not intended for public occupancy or any areas not necessary for specific usage of fixtures.

#### Section 313 Cleanliness

**313.1 Component cleanliness.** All components including fixtures, accessories, cubicles, walls and floors, should be kept in a clean manner at all times. Records of cleaning, disinfection and maintenance should be kept and available for inspection by the authority having jurisdiction.

