

THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS

DEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 19, 1986

TO The Borough Superintendents  
FROM: Charles M. Smith, Jr., Commissioner  
SUBJECT: Lighting in Exits and Their "Access Facilities"

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The term "access facilities" shall mean a "corridor" or "public hallway" in multi-tenant floors; and in single tenant floors it shall mean the enclosed or unenclosed passage connecting the required floor exits and any passenger elevator serving the floor where:

Illumination of at least 2 foot candles measured at the floor level shall be maintained continuously during occupancy in exits and their access facilities is required by Section C26-605.1(a), and

A total of more than 4 lights are required to be connected to an emergency power source or to storage battery equipment by Section C26-605.2(a).

The lighting in "access facilities" shall be as follows:

Multi-tenant floors. - Upon exiting the tenant's occupied side of the floor, the path of travel in the corridor or public hall shall be illuminated to the required exits. An illuminated path of travel shall also be provided from the elevator landing to at least 2 exits. Such illumination shall be of at least 2 foot candles measured at the floor level.

Single tenant floors. - The enclosed or unenclosed passage connecting the required floor exits shall be illuminated to the required exits. An illuminated path of travel shall also be provided from the elevator landing to at least 2 exits. Such illumination shall be of at least 2 foot candles measured at the floor level.

Refer to the following definitions:

Corridor. - An enclosed public passage providing a means of access from rooms or spaces to an exit. (Pursuant to Sub-article 201.0 of Article 2, Part II, Title C, Chapter 26 of the Administrative Code, enacted by Local Law 76, effective December 6, 1968.,

Hallway. - a) The term "hallway" shall mean an enclosed hall or corridor leading to a stairway, fire tower or other required exit.

b) The term "public hallway" shall mean a corridor or hallway leading directly to a stairway, fire tower or other required exit, within a story of a structure which story is occupied by more than one tenant or lessee, or within a structure included in Section C26-235.0(a) (Public Buildings). (Pursuant to Section C26-81.0, Article 1, Title C, Chapter 26 of the Administrative Code, in effect for buildings constructed prior to December 6, 1968.)



Charles M. Smith, Jr., R.A.  
Commissioner

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