



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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INTERPRETIVE OPINION

Pursuant to §103-50, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), all public buildings, facilities and sites constructed by, or on behalf of the State or any county, shall conform to the 2004 Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (2004 ADAAG) and amendments. In accordance to HRS §103-50 and Chapter 11-216, Hawaii Administrative Rules, the Disability and Communication Access Board has authority to issue interpretive opinions to HRS §103-50 design standards.

Docket: DCAB 2012-05: What are the scoping and technical requirements for picnic facilities and picnic tables located in outdoor areas?

Summary: There are fixed picnic tables located in outdoor environments such as parks, trails, camping facilities and even at restaurants and dining establishments. The 2004 ADAAG currently addresses fixed dining tables. Regardless of whether those tables are “picnic tables” or another type of dining table, the 2004 ADAAG shall be applied to fixed dining tables that serve the general public, or where located in common use areas, outdoors or within a building or facility.

The 2004 ADAAG does not have guidelines applicable to trails or camping areas and currently the Department of Justice has not adopted enforceable standards for the outdoor environment.

“Fixed tables” are tables that are fixed or somehow secured in place. Where a department of agency states that the tables are not intended to be moved and are considered permanent, such as concrete tables, those tables would also be covered by this interpretive opinion.

Ruling: For buildings or facilities subject to HRS §103-50,

ADAAG 226 and 902

Fixed picnic tables located within buildings, facilities and sites and fixed picnic tables in outdoor areas, are covered by the 2004 ADAAG and shall comply with 2004 ADAAG sections 226 and 902. Picnic Tables located along trails and within camping facilities are not covered by this interpretive opinion.

Accessible routes complying with section 206 and Chapter 4 of the 2004 ADAAG shall connect accessible fixed picnic tables with other accessible buildings, facilities, elements and spaces within the same site.

[Ruling: 01/21/2016] (Auth and Imp: HRS §103-50)

If you have any questions or comments regarding this ruling, please call us at 586-8121.

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