

Annex D: Update on Code on Accessibility 2025

1 First introduced in 1990, the Code on Accessibility in the Built Environment (“Code”) sets out the minimum standards for accessibility in buildings to ensure that persons with disabilities and other users can access and use buildings and their facilities. The Code applies to new buildings, as well as existing buildings undergoing addition and alteration (A&A) works that require plan approval from BCA.

2 The Code is periodically reviewed and updated to reflect the evolving needs of the communities. Universal Design (UD) principles have been incorporated into the Code to benefit a wider spectrum of people, including the elderly and families with young children. The Code review process is carried out by a Code Review Committee comprising representatives from government agencies, social services agencies, industry stakeholders and interest groups, to balance the needs of different users and the impact on the industry. The Code on Accessibility in the Built Environment 2019 is the latest version of the Code.

3 The Code is currently undergoing review. The draft of the revised Code was launched for public consultation in Dec 2024. Some of the key proposed changes include:

- a) Increasing the minimum depth of wheelchair-accessible passenger lifts;
- b) Lowering the GFA threshold for office and business parks for the provision of lactation rooms; and
- c) Mandatory features that lactation rooms should be equipped with.

4 Following the completion of the public consultation, the Code Review Committee will assess the feedback received before finalising the proposed revisions. BCA targets to release the revised Code later in the year, and the industry will be given six months’ notice before the new Code takes effect for compliance. BCA will work with social service agencies and industry to publicise the launch of the revised Code and hold industry seminars/workshops to help the industry familiarise itself with the revised standards.