

## Preface

LCM Architects developed this Accessibility Planning Guide to assist the University of Illinois at Chicago in the analysis, planning and construction of sites and facilities so that they will be accessible for people with disabilities.

Accessibility regulations that apply to UIC include: *The Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines* (ADAAG); *The Illinois Accessibility Code* (IAC); and the Fair Housing Act (FHA). While UIC is not required to follow the *Chicago Building Code* (CBC), most of the requirements of the other three agencies have been incorporated into *The Chicago Building Code's* new section on accessibility. The Accessibility Planning Guide developed for UIC is based on the key elements of the above regulatory bodies.

ADAAG was first issued by the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board in 1996. ADAAG was recently updated and issued as Final Rule by the Access Board on July 23, 2004 (New ADAAG), but has not yet been issued into law by Congress. "New ADAAG" includes minor revisions to ADAAG along with some new sections. Where applicable, the Accessibility Planning Guide references those key elements of New ADAAG.

The checklist is divided into 31 sections that include both technical elements along with special applications that apply to facilities containing occupancies with additional requirements. The checklist sections may be used individually or combined for a comprehensive review of more complex projects. In addition to the requirement noted, graphics were added for reference to better help illustrate the condition.

LCM has also included a section on Universal Design ideas that could be considered for future UIC projects. Universal Design is the concept that the places, things and information should be usable by the widest range of people operating in the widest range of situations without special or separate design.

The Accessibility Planning Guide is meant to be used by UIC project managers and facilities personnel. It will aid in helping UIC to establish a high level of accessibility that is uniform and consistent on a campus-wide basis. It will bring together UIC's accessibility goals and objectives; the University's legal obligations and introduce the principals of Universal Design as a goal for integration of accessibility into future projects.

This Accessibility Planning Guide is not meant to be all-inclusive of all scoping and technical requirements of the above documents. However, it does combine the key elements of each that will assist in the evaluation of existing facilities and the planning and design of new and altered facilities. When new projects are undertaken, the entity responsible for making the alteration and/or the Architect of Record must follow all applicable local, state and federal codes and regulations.