

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

PRESENTATION: Storefront Accessibility

- Q1. An existing mixed-use building where the dominant use is residential includes commercial space that is changing from retail to office on the lower level. Must the building comply with accessibility requirements?**
- A1. If there is change in the occupancy group, then it must comply.
- Q2. If an existing building has more than one door which is less than 18” above the sidewalk, do all of those doors need to be made accessible?**
- A2. If all the doors are public entrances, then they must be made accessible.
- Q3. How are service lifts addressed regarding accessibility?**
- A3. Service lifts are considered a conveying system and are covered in Chapter 30 of the Building Code.
- Q4. Are there any provisions that would allow the use of a temporary ramp, stored within the building to provide an accessible entrance?**
- A4. No.
- Q5. What are the accessibility requirements during flood events?**
- A5. The requirements of accessibility, including accessible means of egress, apply to buildings located inside and outside of flood zones. Refer to state and federal guidelines for matters not covered by NYC Codes.

For further technical questions, email ConstructionCodes@buildings.nyc.gov.