



Dear GfA Breakfast Meeting Attendee

Thank you for attending the Breakfast Meeting held on the 6th of October 2022 at Doppio Zero, Rosebank.

It was a pleasure to present to you, my perspective on the importance of universal design in the built environment. As Architects, it is critical that we ensure that our designs are inclusive of all end-users.

As a follow-up to our meeting, I would like to share the references that I mentioned for your further information.

The 7 principles of Universal Design

- **Equitable use:** The design is useful and marketable to people with diverse abilities.
- **flexibility in use:** The design accommodates a wide range of individual preferences and abilities.
- **simple and intuitive use:** Use of the design is easy to understand, regardless of the user's experience, knowledge, language skills, or current concentration level.
- **perceptible information:** The design communicates necessary information effectively to the user, regardless of ambient conditions or the user's sensory abilities.
- **tolerance for error:** The design minimizes hazards and adverse consequences of accidental or unintended actions.
- **low physical effort:** The design can be used efficiently and comfortably and with a minimum of fatigue.
- **size and space for approach and use:** Appropriate size and space is provided for approach, reach, manipulation and use regardless of user's body size, posture, or mobility.
- These principles are applied across all design sectors and include areas of information technology, communication and building design. When universal design principles are applied in architecture, the result is universal accessibility.



Roadmap of Legislations that make accessibility a requirement

The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1966 (Act No. 108 of 1996)

The three most relevant parameters in the Bill of Rights (chapter 2) are:

- Equality (Section 9)
- Human Dignity (Section 10)
- Environment (Section 24)

The Promotion of Equality and Prevention of Unfair Discrimination Act, 2000 (Act No. 4 of 2000)

- Section 9
- Section 13

The Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 (Act No. 85 of 1993)

- section 8(1)
- section 9(1)

Employment Equity Act, 1998 (Act No. 55 of 1998)

- Section 15(2)
- Section 11
- Section 54(1)

SANS 10400-S: 2011 (Facilities for persons with disabilities)

Notes:

Stairlifts in public buildings

Just to confirm that stair lifts are currently not permitted as means of vertical access in public buildings. Stairlifts have 2 disadvantages as follows:

- Stairlifts reduce the clear width of the staircase. When retrofitting a stairlift. To standard staircases, the staircase will become non-compliant due to the reduced width.
- When a wheelchair user uses a stairlift, the wheelchair will need to be physically carried up the stairs by a second person. This is not an inclusive design solution and takes away a person's ability to manoeuvre independently.

Contact

Please feel free to contact me should you wish to know more ☺



MAYA ARCHITECTS

PROFESSIONAL ARCHITECTS & UNIVERSAL DESIGN ADVOCATES

Continuous Professional Development

I will be running seminars, webinars and workshops in the coming months on various topics related to universal design, starting with the 2-Day Universal Design and Accessibility Seminar to be held in November. It would be great to see you there.

 Presented by: Arch. Nadira Haripersadh Universal Design Advocate  Maya Architects is a proud Platform 100 Partner	<h1>2-Day Universal Design and Accessibility Seminar</h1>		
	Date : 17 - 18 November 2022	Time : 9am - 4pm	Venue : 52 Glenhove Road Melrose Estate
	Be Inclusive 	Be Transformative  Category: 1 - 2 CPD Points	Be Progressive 

Click [here](#) for more info.

Sincerely

Nadira

Remember...
November is Disability Awareness Month
Make it count

