

CORRIDORS, PUBLIC AREAS

Free of Obstructions: All building exit access corridors shall be fire-rated according to the Code and free of obstructions including display cases, fire extinguishers / cabinets, drinking fountains, public telephones, vending machines, etc. When located in an egress corridor, frequently used items such as drinking fountains and telephones shall not obstruct the full flow of traffic, even when in use. In many cases this will require that an alcove be provided. Vending machines shall be located in separate areas that are appropriate for such usage. (See the *Vending Areas* section within these *General Guidelines*).

Durable Construction: Corridors and other interior public areas shall be constructed to be significantly more durable than other lower traffic areas. See the *Floors* and the *Walls and Partitions* sections within these *General Guidelines*. Design within corridors and public areas shall be driven by durability requirements, which typically exceed the minimal requirements established by the *Life Safety Code*.

Fire-resistance Rating: The appropriate fire-resistance rating of exit corridors and openings therein, shall be determined by the applicable Building Code or Life Safety Code. When new utility system installations create penetrations of the corridor walls, appropriate fire-stopping protection shall be installed to restore the corridor fire-resistance rating.

Communications: Consideration shall be given to the installation of voice and data outlets and wireless access connections in public gathering spaces. Power outlets shall also be provided at each communication outlet. The location of the communication outlets shall be coordinated with the furniture plan.