MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
STATE AID FOR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION
Technical Memorandum No. 04-SA-02
March 2, 2004

TO: County Engineers (Distribution 618)
City Engineers (Distribution 650)
District State Aid Engineers

FROM: Julie Skallman
State Aid Engineer

SUBJECT: ADA Requirements of the Use of Truncated Domes/Detectable Warning Systems
and the Installation of Pedestrian Curb Ramps

EXPIRATION
This Technical Memorandum revises Chapter 200 of the State Aid Manual, and will remain in
effect until superseded or placed in the State Aid Manual.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE
On July 1, 2003, Mn/DOT issued Technical Memorandum 03-19-TS-02, describing the
requirements for installation of pedestrian ramps and detectable warning systems on Mn/DOT
projects. See http://www.dot.state.mn.us/tecsup/tmemo/active/tm03/19ts02.pdf. The purpose of
this Technical Memorandum is to clarify the ADA requirements as they apply to local Federal-
aid projects and state-aid projects.

IMPLEMENTATION
The Federal Highway Administration is responsible for enforcement of ADA requirements on
project utilizing federal funds. To comply with the ADA, any Federal-aid project must provide
for pedestrian curb ramps with detectable warnings (specifically truncated domes) on any
Federal-aid project that has existing or proposed sidewalk within the project termini, even if the
proposed work can be done without disturbing the existing sidewalk or pedestrian ramps. Plans
without pedestrian ramps and detectable warning systems provided will be returned.

State-aid projects are subject to the same ADA laws as Federal-aid projects, and in accordance
with State Aid Operations Rules 8820.3000 Subp.2, it is the local agency’s responsibility to
assure compliance with federal, state, and local laws. Therefore, on state-aid funded projects,
State Aid will assume that the local agency has determined its plan is in compliance with ADA
requirements, and will not review plans for inclusion of pedestrian ramps or detectable warning
systems.

QUESTIONS:
For information on the contents of this technical memorandum, contact Jim Koivisto, State Aid
Project Delivery Engineer at (651) 284-3563.

cc: DSAA