



**DATE:** October 1, 2021  
**POLICY MEMO NO.:** PM2021-0001  
**TITLE:** No Step Threshold  
**RELATED DEPT. & DIVISION:** Development Services Department  
**TOPIC:** Accessibility  
**DECISION MAKER:** Beth M. Culver, AIA, CBO, Building Official

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**SUMMARY:** Subsection 5-1-141-C (Building Entrances) requires a building entrance that includes a no-step entrance to have a maximum distance between the interior floor level of the building entrance and the adjacent walking surface level to be no greater than one-half inch.

This Policy Memo provides an alternative method of construction. The approved prescriptive method is still allowed.

**CODE SECTIONS:** Austin City Code – Title 5 Civil Rights

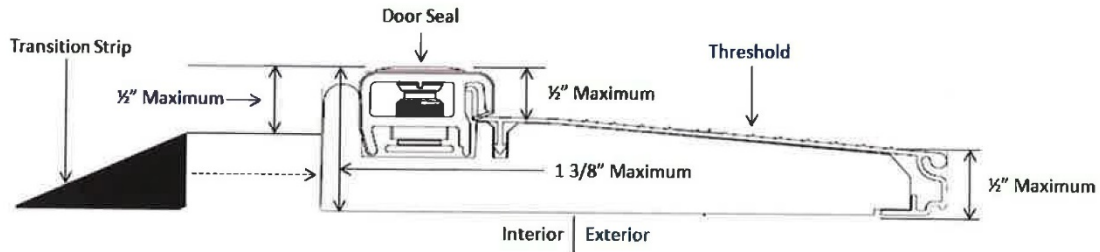
- [§ 5-1-141 – Building Entrances.](#)
  - *Codified in: Chapter 5-1 – Housing Discrimination. Article 3 – Accessibility in Housing Constructed with Public Funds. Division 2 – Design and Construction Requirements.*

**POLICY:**

Threshold and transition strip description:

- Change in levels are required to be beveled, with a maximum vertical rise of a ½-inch.
- Height from the exterior side of the walking surface to the top of the threshold shall be ½-inch maximum.
- Height from the top of the threshold to the top of the door seal shall be ½-inch maximum.
- The maximum height of the threshold, including the door seal, shall be 1 3/8-inches.
- Height from the top of the transition strip to the top of the door seal shall be ½-inch maximum when abutted to the threshold.

The below diagram illustrates the allowable maximum heights of the components of a threshold and a transition strip, installed on a level walking surface. This is an allowable and acceptable installation.



*Beth M. Culver*

Beth M. Culver, AIA, CBO, Building Official

Historical Note: This interpretation was previously approved as CI2013-0002 by Leon Barba, Building Official.