



## Part 1228 Rail Stations

This issue of the Code Outreach Program highlights a new Part 1228 Rail Stations (Part 1228) that has been added to Title 19 of the Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York (19 NYCRR). 19 NYCRR is the starting point for the Uniform Code and Energy Code provisions. See this [previous edition](#) of the Code Outreach Program which discusses what 19 NYCRR's role is in the Uniform Code and Energy Code, identifies a technical bulletin with a detailed summary of the Uniform Code provisions that reside in 19 NYCRR, and a summary of the notable changes from that detailed summary.

Part 1228 was adopted by the State Fire Prevention and Building Code Council at their June 25, 2021, quarterly meeting. It was posted in the [July 14, 2021, State Register](#) with an effective date of October 12, 2021. Between the date of adoption and the effective date, regulated parties were given the option of complying with either the provisions within the Uniform Code as modified by Part 1228, or with the Uniform Code as it existed prior to the adoption of Part 1228.

Part 1228 amends the Uniform Code to include certain specific provisions and requirements applicable to rail stations. Rail stations is a specific term defined within Part 1228 as *"a building or structure, or portion thereof, that is utilized for the boarding and/or disembarking of passengers from train equipment, including passenger rail and fixed guideway transit systems, and ancillary spaces to such activities. This includes public locations, back of house locations, and trainways within the bounds of the building or structure. This shall not include shelter stops."* Additional terms are also defined in Part 1228 for the purposes of Part 1228 including: back of house locations, fixed guideway transit systems, parts 1220 to 1227, passenger rail system, public locations, shelter stop, trainway, and Uniform Code Provisions for Rail Stations. Please see the above noted positing in the State Register, page 35 for the final rule text.

Rail stations are unique structures within the Uniform Code in that many building occupants enter rail stations by train equipment that was boarded in a different location. Upon disembarking train equipment, the occupant has entered the building, but is immediately unfamiliar with the building layout, having not entered the building through a means of egress element. Prior to Part 1228 being adopted, the Uniform Code did not have specific provisions tailored to address the unique nature of rail stations.

Part 1228 incorporates by reference two new publications: the [Standard for Fixed Guideway Transit and Passenger Rail Systems, 2020 edition, publication date 2019 \(NFPA 130\)](#), and the [Uniform Code Provisions for Rail Stations \(Publication date: June 2021\)](#). Together with the rule text of Part 1228, those designing and regulating rail stations are provided with the necessary provisions to address the complications over the direct application of Parts 1220 to 1227 to new rail stations, and the specific challenges for providing accessible entrances, fire safety improvements, and construction limitations within existing rail stations. Part 1228 starts by identifying what types of buildings and structures Part 1228 applies to and directs the code user to use the *Uniform Code Provisions for Rail Stations* publication. The *Uniform Code Provisions for Rail Stations* publication then directs code users to specific provisions of NFPA 130 that are applicable, modifies specific applicable provisions of NFPA 130, and then adds additional provisions specific to rail stations.

It is important to note as the definition provided above indicates, the provisions of Part 1228 only apply to rail stations serving passengers on fixed guideway transit and passenger rail systems. As those terms are further defined in Part 1228, this only includes the movement of passengers within and between metropolitan areas. This would mean the provisions do not apply to systems utilized specifically for other uses such as systems used for tourist, scenic, historic, or excursion operations; conventional freight systems; or circus trains. Additionally, some buildings and structures that meet the definition of a rail station, may not be under the jurisdiction of local governments and/or regulated by the Uniform Code. For example, the National Railroad Passenger Corporation, commonly known as "Amtrak," is a federal agency, whose buildings, depending on custody, generally are not regulated by the Uniform Code (although many federal agencies voluntarily comply with state and local building codes to the maximum extent practicable). Code users should work with the local government and municipal attorney where the building or structure is located to determine jurisdiction and applicability of the Uniform Code.

The DBSC is currently working with the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, who has custody of the majority of the buildings impacted by these new provisions and who assisted with the adoption of Part 1228, to develop training for the code enforcement community on the use of Part 1228, the *Uniform Code Provisions for Rail Stations* publication, and NFPA 130.

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If you have questions pertaining to the Code Outreach Program, email us at [COP.codes@dos.nv.gov](mailto:COP.codes@dos.nv.gov)

If you have questions pertaining to the Uniform Code or Energy Code, email our technical support group at: [codes@dos.nv.gov](mailto:codes@dos.nv.gov)