

BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

A joint committee with members representing
AIBC, EGBC, BOABC

File No: 18-0184

INTERPRETATION

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Interpretation Date:	October 18, 2022
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 2018
Subject:	Shared Exits in Storage Garages
Keywords:	Storage Garage, Distance Between Exits
Building Code Reference(s):	3.2.8.2.(2); 3.4.2.1.(1) & (2), 3.4.2.5.(1)(c)

Question:

Is it acceptable to design continually sloping parkade with exit stairs that are shared between successive parkade levels?

Interpretation:

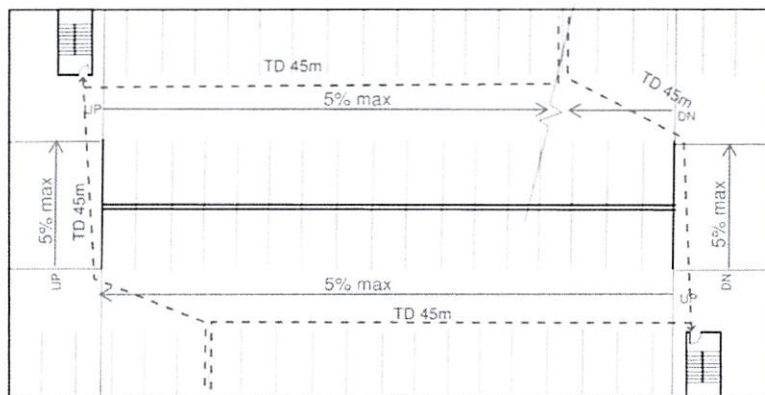
Yes

The principal concept of parkade exit systems is to provide access to 2 separate exits serving each floor level. Therefore, a building with 5 parkade floor levels should be provided with 10 exit doors serving the parkade.

The location of the cut lines to distinguish successive floor levels is irrelevant if each floor level is served by 2 exits and the maximum travel distance to an exit from anywhere within the floor area is 45m.

The slope of the floors must consider the accessible paths of travel and the access to exits.

The diagram below shows a possible layout.



Patrick Shek, P.Eng., CP, FEC, Committee Chair

The views expressed are the consensus of the joint committee with members representing AIBC, EGBC and BOABC, which form the BC Building Code Interpretation Committee. The Building and Safety Standards Branch, Province of BC and the City of Vancouver participate in the committee's proceedings with respect to interpretations of the BC Building Code. The purpose of the committee is to encourage uniform province wide interpretation of the BC Building Code. These views should not be considered as the official interpretation of legislated requirements based on the BC Building Code, as final responsibility for an interpretation rests with the local *Authority Having Jurisdiction*. The views of the joint committee should not be construed as legal advice.