

# GG268-14

## 202 (New), 809 (New)

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Add new text as follows:

### **SECTION 809** **PUBLIC ACCESS STAIRWAYS**

**809.1 General.** Public access stairways shall be in accordance with Sections 809.1.1 through 809.1.4.

**809.1.1 Where required.** Not less than one public access stairway shall be provided. All levels within the building shall have access to not less than one public access stairway.

**809.1.2 Doors in public access stairways.** Doors serving a public access stairway shall be open on both sides, except where access to the level from the elevator is restricted to individuals by use of security devices that include, but are not limited to, card keys or codes. Doors serving a public access stairway that are normally locked from the egress side shall be openable by these same security devices.

**809.1.3 Opening protection.** Doors serving a public access stairway shall have fire-protection rated glazing of not less than 7 square feet.

**Exception:** Glazing in doors shall not be required where public access stairway door sidelights of not less than the same area are provided on one or both sides of a door serving a public access stairway.

**809.1.4 Stairway identification.** A public access stairway identification sign shall be provided on the occupied side of each door leading to a public access stairway. A public access stairway prompt sign shall be posted and maintained on each wall where an elevator call button is located.

Add new definitions as follows:

### **SECTION 202** **DEFINITIONS**

**PUBLIC ACCESS STAIRWAY DOOR SIDELIGHTS.** Fixed transparent panels, which form part of a fire door assembly and are immediately adjacent to the vertical edge of an opening in which a public access stairway door is located.

**STAIRWAY, PUBLIC ACCESS.** A continuous interior stairway that enables building occupants to utilize stairs to travel between the building entrance level and other levels.

**Reason:** Green buildings should encourage physical activity and reduce energy expended on elevators by providing accessible, inviting stairways. This proposal would require buildings to have such stairways, and to make them more inviting by putting transparent sections on or near the stairway doors. The proposal would also require buildings to have signs that clearly identify where the stairs are located, and remind people at elevators that stairs are nearby.

**Bibliography:** NYC Green Codes Task Force, Health and Toxicity Proposals [15](#), [16](#), [17](#), [18](#).

**Cost Impact:** Will not increase the cost of construction

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