



Tactile Wayfinding for Visually Impaired Individuals

July 2024



Research Purpose

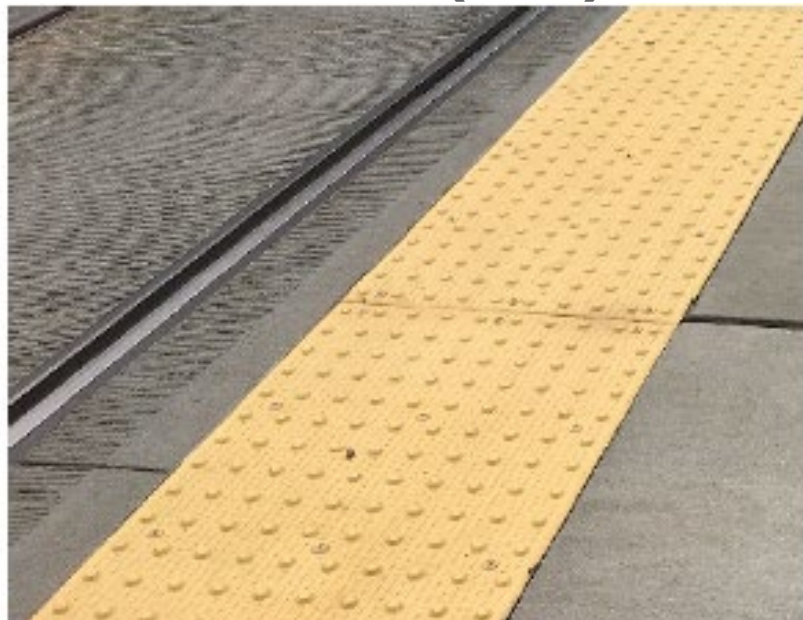
- Determine best practices for Tactile Walking Surface Indicators (TWSI's)
- Experimentation of TWSI as a wayfinding system
- Establish consistent practice guidance





The 3 types and uses of TWSIs

Detectable Warning Surfaces (DWS)



MUTCD + PROWAG ✓
Curb ramps, roadway crossings, conflict points, etc.

Tactile Directional Indicators (TDI)



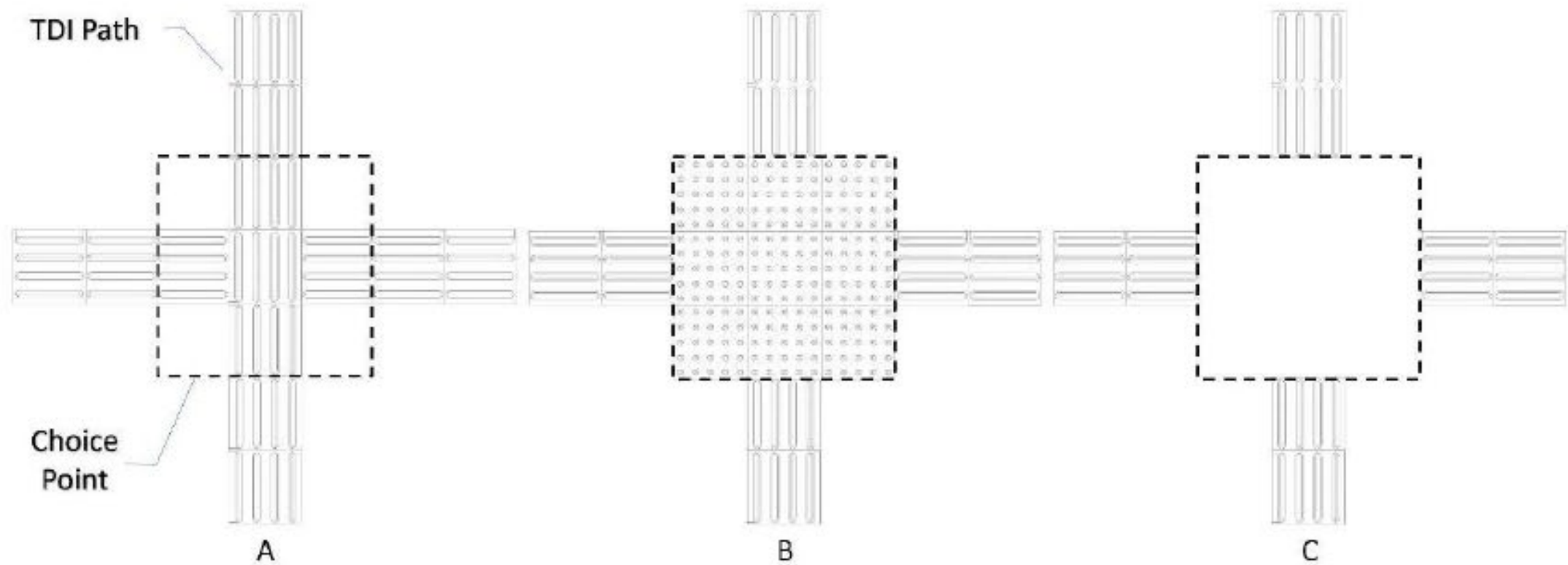
Sidewalks, shared streets, train stations, etc.

Tactile Warning Delineators (TWD)



Separate shared spaces

Examples of Choice Point Indicators (CPI)



Examples of TWSI's used indoors and outdoors

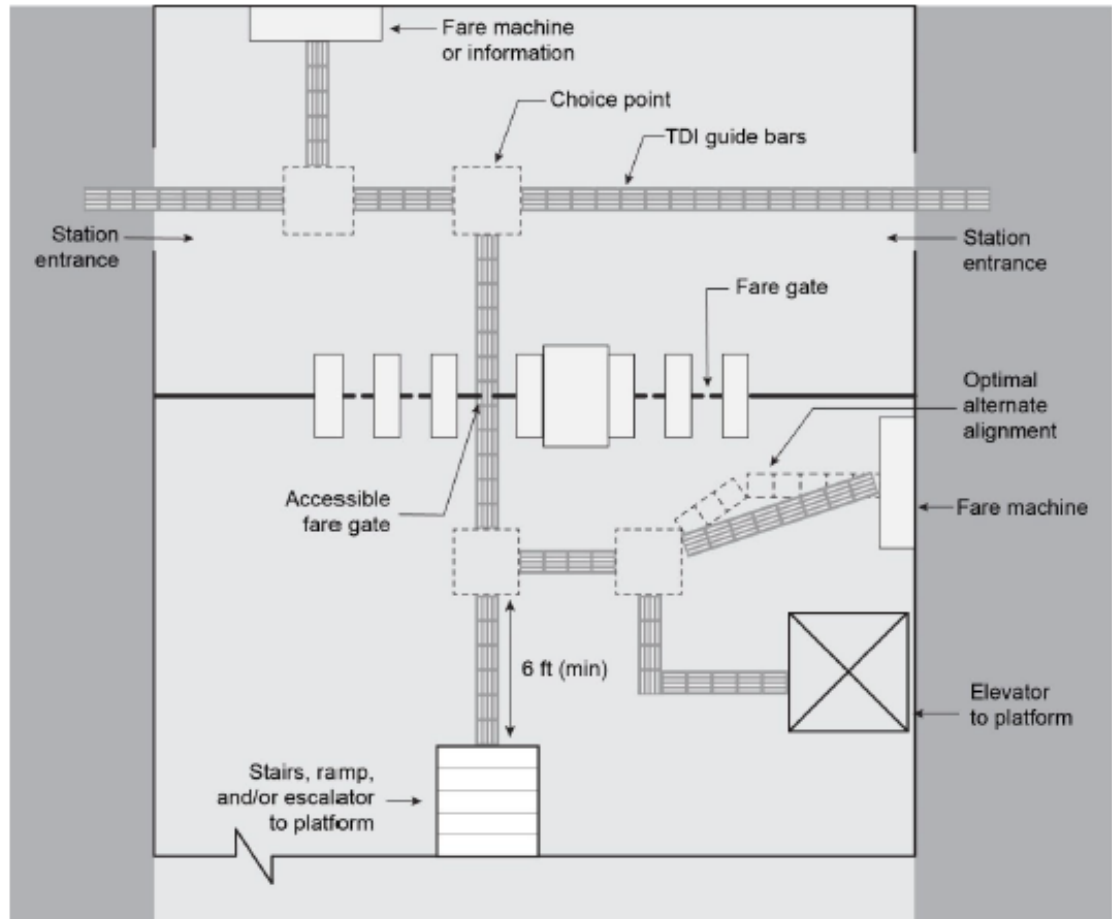
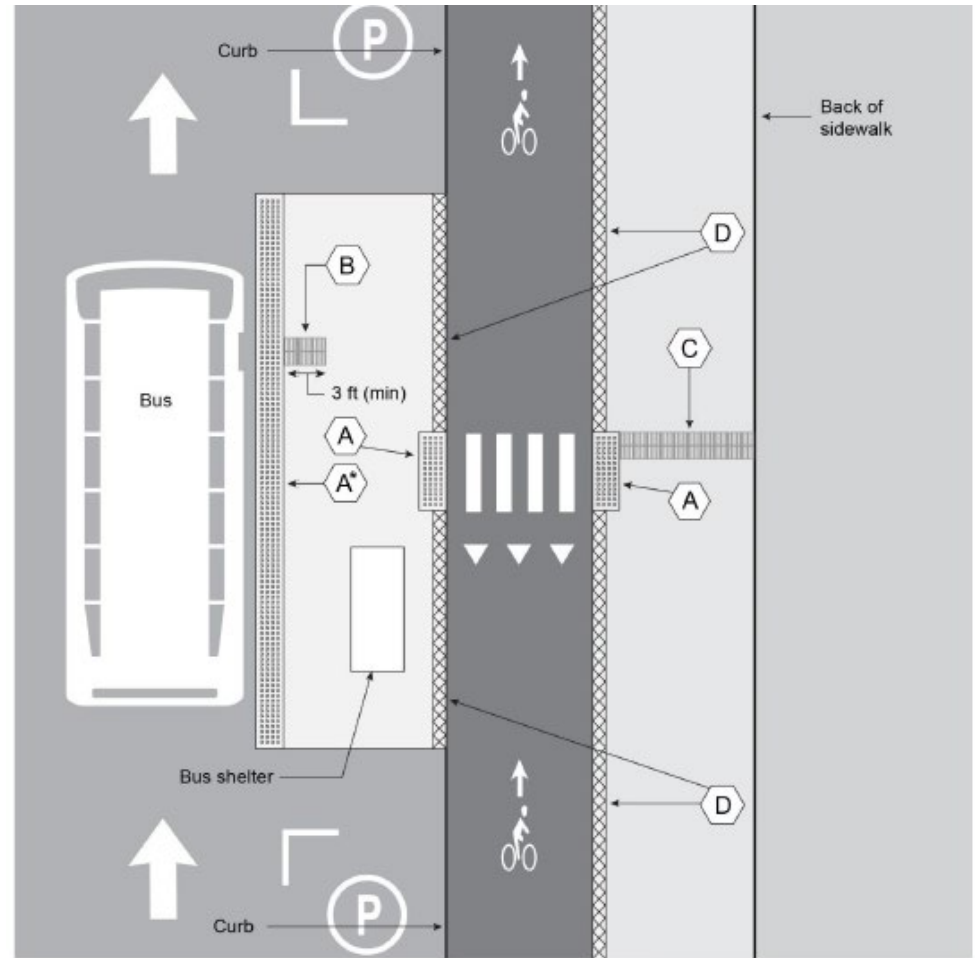


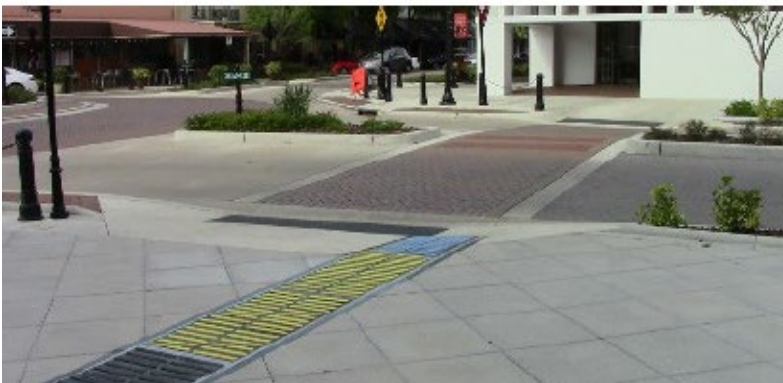
Figure 18. Example of Guide Bars in a Transit Station Mezzanine.



Examples of TDI & TWD's in the US



TDI in San Francisco, CA



TDI in Sarasota, FL



TWD in San Francisco, CA



TDI in Seattle, WA



Research Results and Applicability

- Recommended to use CPIs with blank spaces
- Most participants were most successful walking on the TDI than beside it
- Research gap: does not provide guidance for the use of TDI's along crosswalks
- To download the free PDF, visit:
[NAP.NationalAcademies.org/Catalog/27777](https://www.nap.nationalacademies.org/catalog/27777)
- View the webinar presented on this research paper at:
[Pedestrian & Bicycle Information Center \(pedbikeinfo.org\)](https://pedbikeinfo.org)



Thank You!

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