

## **Requirements for Seating in the Corridor:**

From 2012 Edition of NFPA 101 Life Safety Code:

\*18.2.3.4 (5) Where the corridor width is at least 8 ft (2440 mm), projections into the required width shall be permitted for fixed furniture, provided that all of the following conditions are met:

(a) The fixed furniture is securely attached to the floor or to the wall.

\*A.18.2.3.4(5) The means for affixing the furniture can be achieved with removable brackets to allow cleaning and maintenance. Affixing the furniture to the floor or wall prevents the furniture from moving, so as to maintain a minimum 6 ft (1830 mm) corridor clear width. Affixing the furniture to the floor or wall also provides a sturdiness that allows occupants to safely transfer in and out.

(b) The fixed furniture does not reduce the clear unobstructed corridor width to less than 6 ft (1830 mm), except as permitted by 18.2.3.4(2).

(Note: This means that a chair, bench or seat or divan can be two feet wide...most chairs are less than two feet wide...the 6 feet is measured from the fixed piece of furniture to the wall...not to the other handrail...)

(c) The fixed furniture is located only on one side of the corridor.

(d) The fixed furniture is grouped such that each grouping does not exceed an area of 50 ft<sup>2</sup> (4.6 m<sup>2</sup>).

(Note: At 2 feet wide for the seating, the seating could be 25 feet long)

(e) The fixed furniture groupings addressed in 18.2.3.4(5)(d) are separated from each other by a distance of at least 10 ft (3050 mm).

(f)\*The fixed furniture is located so as to not obstruct access to building service and fire protection equipment.

\*A.18.2.3.4(5)(f) Examples of building service and fire protection equipment include fire extinguishers, manual fire alarm boxes, shutoff valves, and similar equipment.

(Note: The furniture can and will obstruct the handrails and this is ok. You could even remove part of the handrail where the furniture is to be placed to allow more room for larger pieces of furniture without infringing on the 6 feet of open space. )

(g) Corridors throughout the smoke compartment are protected by an electrically supervised automatic smoke detection system in accordance with 18.3.4, or the fixed furniture spaces are arranged and located to allow direct supervision by the facility staff from a nurses' station or similar space.

(Note: These are the smoke detectors that all nursing homes have at 30 feet on center down the corridors...so all nursing homes should comply with this already so the furniture does NOT have to be in view of the nurse station.)

**Illustration:**

Please Note: This drawing is intended to be for illustration purposes only. It may not be used for the purposes of a proposal submission or regulatory waiver. Drawing not to scale.

