

An aerial photograph of New York City, showing a dense grid of skyscrapers and buildings. A semi-transparent blue rectangular overlay covers the middle portion of the image, serving as a background for the title text.

LOCAL LAW 190 OF 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

March 2020

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Buildings

BACKGROUND

This annual report has been prepared pursuant to Local Law 190 of 2018, which was enacted on December 1, 2018.

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The education and outreach conducted as required by Section 28-103.32 of the New York City Administrative Code, including a description of how such outreach was conducted.

The Department of Buildings (“the Department”) has issued a Buildings Bulletin (see [Buildings Bulletin 2019-004](#)) to educate businesses of their obligation to make single-occupant toilet rooms available for use by persons of any sex. This Buildings Bulletin includes examples of compliant signage and provides guidance on how signage must be installed.

The Department has also created a flyer, which is available in 14 languages on the Department’s [website](#). This flyer provides an overview of single-occupant toilet room requirements and informs the public that complaints related to these requirements may be filed with 311 online or by phone. The Department is using this flyer to conduct outreach directly to businesses and members of the public. The Department partnered with elected officials and community stakeholders to identify commercial thoroughfares in all five boroughs where businesses could benefit from outreach.

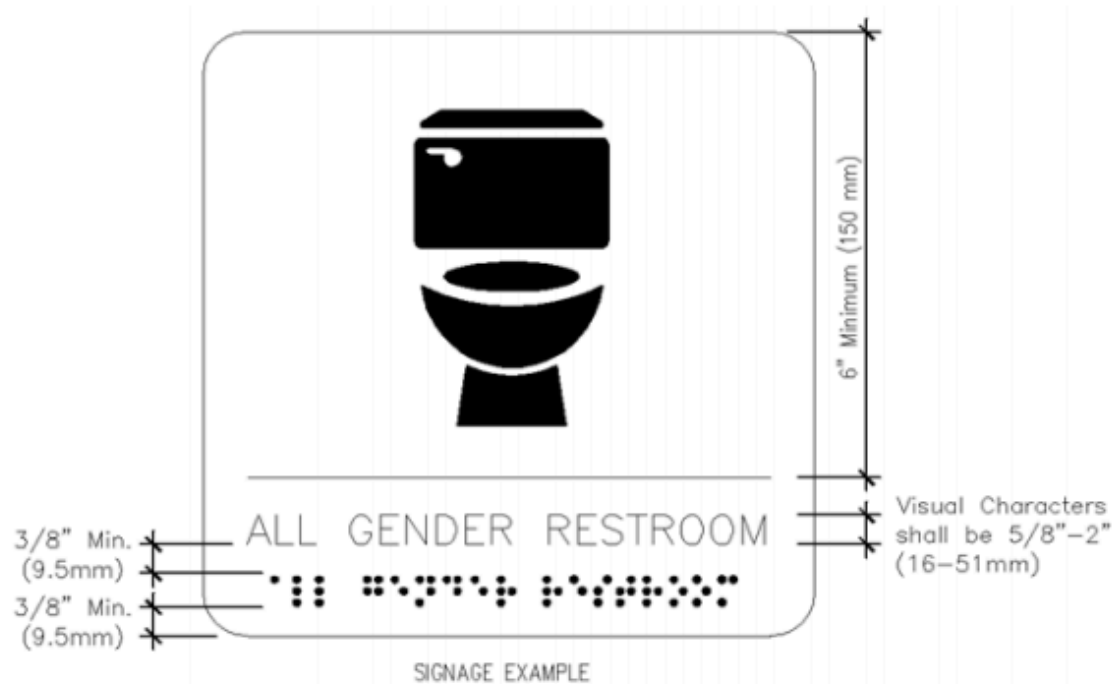
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Buildings Bulletin 2019-004

Specifics

A single-occupant toilet room, as defined by Section PC 202, shall be designated by proper signage.

All toilet room signage shall be installed in accordance with Section 1110 of the New York City Building Code, and Section 703 of ICC A117.1 – 2009 Edition. Signage must be posted on the wall, in accordance with Sections 703.3.10 and 703.3.11 of ICC A117.1. While the Department does not specify the required pictorial images, the following illustrates compliant images, including one for accessible single-occupant toilet room:



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Single-Occupant Toilet Room Flyer

Single-Occupant Toilet Room Signage



What is a single-occupant toilet room?

A single-occupant toilet room is a toilet room – or restroom – that can only be used by only one person.

What is a gender-neutral toilet room sign and when is it required?

A gender-neutral sign indicates that a toilet room can be used by a person of any sex. A gender-neutral toilet room sign is required for single-occupant toilet rooms. This requirement was put into place by Local Law 79 of 2016.

What is Local Law of 79 of 2016?

- Requires that all businesses with single-occupant toilet rooms, make such toilet rooms available for use by persons of any sex.
- **Does not require** physical alterations to such single-occupant toilet rooms except for the posting and maintenance of appropriate gender-neutral signage.

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The number of complaints related to Sections 403.2.1 and 403.4 of the New York City Plumbing Code reported to 311, disaggregated by online complaints and phone complaints.

In 2019, the Department received 65 single-occupant toilet room complaints. 13 complaints were submitted online and 52 were made by phone.

The number of violations issued as a result of such complaints.

To date, the Department has performed an inspection in response to 56 of the complaints received in 2019. Upon inspection, the Department issued 12 violations and determined that no violation was warranted, which means that compliant signage was observed at the time of inspection, in response to 44 complaints.

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The total amount of penalties imposed as a result of such violations for the immediately preceding year.

Of the 12 violations issued in 2019, a civil penalty of \$500 was imposed in 5 instances. In 7 instances, the violation was cured and no civil penalty was imposed. Respondents have 40 days to cure these violations by submitting a Certificate of Correction to the Department, which means they would not incur a civil penalty. Curing the violation entails installing appropriate signage.

Whether subsequent inspections were conducted by the department to ensure future compliance with such sections of the New York City Plumbing Code.

The Department received Certificates of Correction for 7 locations where a violation was issued, which means that appropriate signage was installed. The Department has not conducted subsequent inspections of the 5 locations for which it has issued violations for failure to comply with the single-occupant toilet room signage requirements but did not receive a Certificate of Correction. These locations are subject to further enforcement action by the Department and may incur additional penalties for failure to comply with these requirements.



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