Definition
Wheelchair ramps create a smooth, navigable transition from sidewalk level to roadway level, defined by a maximum slope angle. Landings are areas at the top of a ramp where a wheelchair can stop and turn. Detectable warning tiles are textured surfaces along pedestrian routes to notify visually impaired pedestrians that they are entering or leaving a roadway or other motor vehicle travel way.

Objective
To provide access between the sidewalk and roadway for people using wheelchairs or strollers, and for pedestrians with mobility impairments who may have trouble negotiating curbs.

Advantage
Provides accessible transition between pedestrian ways and street crossings.

‘Channels’ pedestrian movements and orients visually impaired pedestrians in the correct direction for crossing within a marked crosswalk.

Emphasizes the presence of and the need to expect pedestrians in the area.

Challenge
May require additional ROW or other roadway or roadside modifications.

Maintenance, snow removal on truncated dome tiles may be difficult and add cost.

Resources
Public Rights-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG)
http://www.access-board.gov/prowac/prpm.htm
(See Chapters R303, R304, and R305).

(See Chapter 6).

(Chapter 7).

Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center—Curb Ramps

ADAAG Requirements for Detectable Warnings

Images (clockwise from main image):
Example of a curb extension.
Source: Dan Burden, pedbikeimages.org.

Additional examples:
Sources: Dan Burden; Dan Burden, pedbikeimages.org; Dan Burden; Carl Sundstrom, pedbikeimages.org.