



3110 Judge Arend Ave.
Fairbanks, AK 99709
978 549 8393
bbentzen@accessforblind.org
www.accessforblind.org

Accessible Design for the Blind (ADB) is a 30+ year old organization engaged in human factors research on making the built environment accessible to pedestrians who are blind or who have low vision. ADB's core team are orientation and mobility specialists who have decades of experience teaching the vision disabled to travel independently. Some people may know ADB best through Janet Barlow, a well-known researcher and advocate for the vision disabled and former President of ADB. Janet was succeeded by Alan Scott after her untimely death and ADB continues its mission.

ADB would like to go on record as supporting the use of edge lane roads (ELRs) to support vulnerable road users. ELRs present no greater difficulties for crossing by the vision disabled than other low-volume, low-speed roads. Where sidewalks exist, it is expected that blind or low vision pedestrians will travel on the sidewalks. But low volume, low speed roads often lack sidewalks. While ADB is a strong advocate for standard pedestrian accommodations such as sidewalks, we believe that ELRs on low-speed, low-volume roads without sidewalks provide relatively safe paths of travel for vision disabled pedestrians as compared to the standard two-lane configuration.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Beezy Bentzen".

Billie Louise (Beezy) Bentzen, PhD, COMS
Director of Research
Accessible Design for the Blind