DEFINITION: A series of steps or flights of steps, connected by landings.
PURPOSE: For (personal) traffic (i.e., egress or ingress) going from one level to the next.
COMMON COMPONENTS: Treads; Stringers; Risers; Railings; Nosing
LOCATION: ☒ Unit Hallway, stairwell
       ☒ Inside Hallway, stairwell
       ☒ Outside Along elevated walking paths
MORE INFORMATION: None

DEFICIENCY 1: Tread is missing or damaged.
LOCATION: ☒ Unit ☒ Inside ☒ Outside

DEFICIENCY 2: Stringer is damaged.
LOCATION: ☒ Unit ☒ Inside ☒ Outside
DEFIciency 1 — Unit: Tread is missing or damaged.

DEFIciency Criteria: Tread on a set of stairs is missing (i.e., evidence of prior installation, but now not present or is incomplete).

OR

Tread on a set of stairs is loose or unlevel.

OR

A portion of the tread nosing that is greater than 1 inch in depth or 4 inches wide is damaged or broken.

HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION: Moderate

The Moderate Health and Safety category includes deficiencies that, if evident in the home or on the property, present a moderate risk of an adverse medical event requiring a healthcare visit; cause temporary harm; or if left untreated, cause or worsen a chronic condition that may have long-lasting adverse health effects; or that the physical security or safety of a resident or their property could be compromised.

CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 30 days

HCV Pass / Fail: Fail

HCV Correction Timeframe: 30 days

INSPECTION PROCESS:

OBSERVATION:
- Look at the entire set of stairs for the presence of treads.
- If present, examine each tread and nosing for damage.
- Identify evidence of a previously installed tread that is now not present or is incomplete.

REQUEST FOR HELP:
- None

ACTION:
- If tread nosing is damaged or broken, measure each occurrence.
- Walk up the entire set of stairs, ensuring that contact is made with the treads to detect each tread's stability and structural integrity.

MORE INFORMATION:
- If accessory treads are present, then verify if they are secure and level.
Deficiency 1 — Inside:  Tread is missing or damaged.

Deficiency Criteria:  Tread on a set of stairs is missing (i.e., evidence of prior installation, but now not present or is incomplete).
OR
Tread on a set of stairs is loose or unlevel.
OR
A portion of the tread nosing that is greater than 1 inch in depth or 4 inches wide is damaged or broken.

Health and Safety Determination:  Moderate
The Moderate Health and Safety category includes deficiencies that, if evident in the home or on the property, present a moderate risk of an adverse medical event requiring a healthcare visit; cause temporary harm; or if left untreated, cause or worsen a chronic condition that may have long-lasting adverse health effects; or that the physical security or safety of a resident or their property could be compromised.

Correction Timeframe:  30 days
HCY Pass / Fail:  Fail
HCY Correction Timeframe:  30 days

Inspection Process:

Observation:
- Look at the entire set of stairs for the presence of treads.
- If present, examine each tread and nosing for damage.
- Identify evidence of a previously installed tread that is now not present or is incomplete.

Request for Help:
- None

Action:
- If tread nosing is damaged or broken, measure each occurrence.
- Walk up the entire set of stairs, ensuring that contact is made with the treads to detect each tread’s stability and structural integrity.

More Information:
- If accessory treads are present, then verify if they are secure and level.
DEFICIENCY 1 — OUTSIDE: **TREAD IS MISSING OR DAMAGED.**

**DEFICIENCY CRITERIA:**
- Tread on a set of stairs is missing (i.e., evidence of prior installation, but now not present or is incomplete).
  - OR
- Tread on a set of stairs is loose or unlevel.
  - OR
- A portion of the tread nosing that is greater than 1 inch in depth or 4 inches wide is damaged or broken.

**HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION:**
- Moderate

The Moderate Health and Safety category includes deficiencies that, if evident in the home or on the property, present a moderate risk of an adverse medical event requiring a healthcare visit; cause temporary harm; or if left untreated, cause or worsen a chronic condition that may have long-lasting adverse health effects; or that the physical security or safety of a resident or their property could be compromised.

**CORRECTION TIMEFRAME:** 30 days

**HCV PASS / FAIL:** Fail

**HCV CORRECTION TIMEFRAME:** 30 days

**INSPECTION PROCESS:**

**Observation:**
- Look at the entire set of stairs for the presence of treads.
- If present, examine each tread and nosing for damage.
- Identify evidence of a previously installed tread that is now not present or is incomplete.

**Request for Help:** None

**Action:**
- If tread nosing is damaged or broken, measure each occurrence.
- Walk up the entire set of stairs, ensuring that contact is made with the treads to detect each tread's stability and structural integrity.

**More Information:**
- If accessory treads are present, then verify if they are secure and level.
**Deficiency 2 — Unit:** Stringer is damaged.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deficiency Criteria:</th>
<th>Stringer is damaged (i.e., visibly defective; impacts functionality).</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health and Safety Determination:</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Correction Timeframe:</td>
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<tr>
<td>HCV Pass / Fail:</td>
<td>Fail</td>
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<tr>
<td>HCV Correction Timeframe:</td>
<td>30 days</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Inspection Process:**

**Observation:** - Look at the entire set of stairs and, if visible, examine the stringers for signs of damage.  
- If instability is detected while walking on the stairs, look to determine if instability is likely caused by a damaged stringer.  
- Look to ensure the stringer is attached to the structure.

**Request for Help:** - None

**Action:** - Walk up the entire set of stairs to determine the stability of the stairs (i.e., feel for stability or bouncing).

**More Information:** - Generally, stringers may only be visible on exterior stairs.  
- If not visible, then the inspector is unable to evaluate this deficiency.
DEFICIENCY 2 — INSIDE: **STRINGER IS DAMAGED.**

**DEFICIENCY CRITERIA:** Stringer is damaged (i.e., visibly defective; impacts functionality).

**HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION:** Moderate

The Moderate Health and Safety category includes deficiencies that, if evident in the home or on the property, present a moderate risk of an adverse medical event requiring a healthcare visit; cause temporary harm; or if left untreated, cause or worsen a chronic condition that may have long-lasting adverse health effects; or that the physical security or safety of a resident or their property could be compromised.

**CORRECTION TIMEFRAME:** 30 days

**HCV Pass / Fail:** Fail

**HCV CORRECTION TIMEFRAME:** 30 days

**INSPECTION PROCESS:**

**Observation:**
- Look at the entire set of stairs and, if visible, examine the stringers for signs of damage.
- If instability is detected while walking on the stairs, look to determine if instability is likely caused by a damaged stringer.
- Look to ensure the stringer is attached to the structure.

**Request for Help:** None

**Action:**
- Walk up the entire set of stairs to determine the stability of the stairs (i.e., feel for stability or bouncing).

**More Information:**
- Generally, stringers may only be visible on exterior stairs.
- If not visible, then the inspector is unable to evaluate this deficiency.
DEFICIENCY 2 — OUTSIDE:  

STRINGER IS DAMAGED.

DEFICIENCY CRITERIA:  
Stringer is damaged (i.e., visibly defective; impacts functionality).

HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION:  
Moderate  
The Moderate Health and Safety category includes deficiencies that, if evident in the home or on the property, present a moderate risk of an adverse medical event requiring a healthcare visit; cause temporary harm; or if left untreated, cause or worsen a chronic condition that may have long-lasting adverse health effects; or that the physical security or safety of a resident or their property could be compromised.

CORRECTION TIMEFRAME:  
30 days

HCV PASS / FAIL:  
Fail

HCV CORRECTION TIMEFRAME:  
30 days

INSPECTION PROCESS:

- Look at the entire set of stairs and, if visible, examine the stringers for signs of damage.
- If instability is detected while walking on the stairs, look to determine if instability is likely caused by a damaged stringer.
- Look to ensure the stringer is attached to the structure.

REQUEST FOR HELP:  
None

ACTION:  
- Walk up the entire set of stairs to determine the stability of the stairs (i.e., feel for stability or bouncing).

MORE INFORMATION:  
- Generally, stringers may only be visible on exterior stairs.
- If not visible, then the inspector is unable to evaluate this deficiency.
## SUMMARY OF CHANGES

**TITLE:** STAIRS  
**VERSION:** V2.2  
**DATE PUBLISHED:** 06/23/22

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<th>Field</th>
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<td>2020-07-31</td>
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