Ref: S&C-12-21-LSC
LSC sections 18/19.2.3 Capacity of Means of Egress and more specifically the requirements at 18/19.2.3.4 which allow, under certain circumstances, projections into the means of egress corridor width for wheeled equipment and fixed furniture;

Section 19.2.3.4 Capacity of Means of Egress has been revised to now allow the following:

(1) Aisles, corridors, and ramps in adjunct areas not intended for the housing, treatment, or use of inpatients shall be not less than 44 in. (1120 mm) in clear and unobstructed width.

(2)*Where corridor width is at least 6 ft (1830 mm), noncontinuous projections not more than 6 in. (150 mm) from the corridor wall, above the handrail height, shall be permitted.

Annex Note:
A.19.2.3.4 (2) The intent of 19.2.3.4(2) is to permit limited noncontinuous projections along the corridor wall. These include hand-rub dispensing units complying with 19.3.2.6, nurse charting units, wall-mounted computers, telephones, artwork, bulletin boards, display case frames, cabinet frames, fire alarm boxes, and similar items. It is not the intent to permit the narrowing of the corridor by the walls themselves. The provision of 7.3.2.2 permits projections up to 41/2 in. (114mm)to be present at and below the 38 in. (965 mm) handrail height, and it is not the intent of 19.2.3.4(2) to prohibit such projections.

(3) Exit access within a room or suite of rooms complying with the requirements of 19.2.5 shall be permitted.

(4) Projections into the required width shall be permitted for wheeled equipment, provided that all of the following conditions are met:
   (a) The wheeled equipment does not reduce the clear unobstructed corridor width to less than 60 in.(1525 mm).
   (b) The health care occupancy fire safety plan and training program address the relocation of the wheeled equipment during a fire or similar emergency.
   (c)*The wheeled equipment is limited to the following:
      i. Equipment in use and carts in use
      ii. Medical emergency equipment not in use
      iii. Patient lift and transport equipment
Annex Note:
A.19.2.3.4 (4)(c) Wheeled equipment and carts in use include food service carts, housekeeping carts, medication carts, isolation carts, and similar items. Isolation carts should be permitted in the corridor only where patients require isolation precautions.

Unattended wheeled crash carts and other similar wheeled emergency equipment are permitted to be located in the corridor when “not in use,” because they need to be immediately accessible during a clinical emergency. Note that “not in use” is not the same as “in storage.” Storage is not permitted to be open to the corridor, unless it meets one of the provisions permitted in 19.3.6.1 and is not a hazardous area.

Wheeled portable patient lift or transport equipment needs to be readily available to clinical staff for moving, transferring, toileting, or relocating patients. These devices are used daily for safe handling of patients and to provide for worker safety. This equipment might not be defined as “in use” but needs to be convenient for the use of caregivers at all times.

(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.
(b) The fixed furniture does not reduce the clear unobstructed corridor width to less than 6 ft (1830 mm), except as permitted by 19.2.3.4(2).
(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 ft² (4.6 m²).
(e) The fixed furniture groupings addressed in 19.2.3.4(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.
(g) Corridors throughout the smoke compartment are protected by an electrically supervised automatic smoke detection system in accordance with 19.3.4, or the fixed furniture spaces are arranged and located to allow direct supervision by the facility staff from a nurses’ station or similar space.
(h) The smoke compartment is protected throughout by an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 19.3.5.8.

Annex Note:
A.19.2.3.4 (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.