



## CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS

### Committee of the Whole Agenda Communication

**Meeting Date:** November 9, 2020

**Prepared By:** Dennis Carr – City Engineer

**Agenda Item:** Construction Standards Update

**Explanation:** The last pdf file of the City's Construction Standards I found while going through Ed's files was a from 2008. The set has a standard that has been marked removed and some language that is redundant. The standards are still in pretty good shape design wise, but I would like to recommend some tweaks. The most common recommendations are as follows:

1. The existing typicals show a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " per foot slope on sidewalk. This equates to 2% which is the absolute maximum allowed per ADA requirements. I recommend that we change  $\frac{1}{4}$ " to  $\frac{3}{16}$ " which would adjust the slope to 1.5%. This minor adjust will make inspection a lot easier and reduce confrontations for when sidewalks forms are set at 2% but the finishing creates a 2.1% slope which needs to be removed.
2. IDOT's minimum lift thickness for the state specified IL 19.0 Binder course is  $2\frac{1}{4}$ ". This minimum thickness is based off the nominal diameter of the aggregate to help prevent fracturing of the aggregate while being compacted. A few of the city typicals show  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " of Binder Course which should be increased or the asphalt type changed. For these standards, the City can should reduce the surface lift thickness to  $1\frac{1}{4}$ " which is the minimum for IL9.5 and increase the binder thickness to the minimum of  $2\frac{1}{4}$ "
3. The existing typicals show the aggregate subbase as only being underneath the asphalt. I would recommend that this aggregate be extended under the curb as well as added under the sidewalk. The aggregate gives a nice working platform as well as allows any water that gets to the subgrade to drain to the back of curb instead of the edge of pavement. The aggregate under the sidewalk helps prevent some heaving that can be caused by water washing out the fines of the bare earth underneath the
4. The callouts for the asphalt and aggregate call out "Compacted". The general notes say that everything is to be constructed in accordance with IDOT's standard specifications. The IDOT specs are very clear in what percent compaction needs to be achieved for each material.
5. The minimum width for sidewalk to meet ADA requirements is 4 ft. IDOT recommends 5 ft wide sidewalks and sidewalks along the back of curb should be 6 ft. This additional width is to accommodate for any type of intrusions into the accessible window (planter edge, bush, handrail extensions). A standard for sidewalk that shows slope, depth, and aggregate for sidewalks at back of curb and with greenspace would help. Could give all jointing notes and expansion at property lines note on this sheet.

**Action Requested:** Discussion.