

RE: WHEELCHAIR RAMPS - MIDDLEGATE AREA

MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the recommendation of the Director Engineering be adopted.

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TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER 1987 OCTOBER 06
FROM: DIRECTOR ENGINEERING
SUBJECT: WHEELCHAIR RAMPS - MIDDLEGATE AREA

RECOMMENDATIONS:

THAT Reverend Sam Smith, President of Hall Towers Tenants' Association, and the Edmonds Community Centre Steering Committee be sent copies of this report.

R E P O R T

At its meeting of 1987 September 28, Council received a letter concerning wheelchair ramps from the Edmonds Community Centre Steering Committee. Reverend Sam Smith, President of the Hall Towers Tenants' Association, had also corresponded with us on the same subject.

On 1987 June 29, Council approved an appropriation of \$75,000 to provide wheelchair ramps "...to start a program of installing wheelchair ramps along corridors that will assist the handicapped to access our commercial areas...." Of the three locations identified in the submission from Reverend Sam Smith, all would fall within corridors accessing the Middlegate commercial area.

The southeast corner of Kingsway/Edmonds Street is currently under construction, in conjunction with the development of the former Edmonds transit loop, and improved handicapped facilities are being incorporated. The intersection of Edmonds Street/Linden Avenue would definitely be a point of concentration for access to the I.G.A. store and therefore is a priority location in any corridor serving this store. Similarly, Arcola Street/Hall Avenue is a T-intersection with a main driveway access to the Middlegate Shopping Centre which wheelchair users use to enter the Centre property from the multi-family residential area east of the Centre.

We will be installing wheelchair ramps and their accompanying parking prohibitions at the latter two requested locations under the aforementioned Council approved appropriation. The parking prohibition consists of restricting the stopping of vehicles within 21 metres of the approach side of the ramp. The purpose of the prohibition is to improve the sight distance both for and of persons in wheelchairs whose low profile makes the standard intersection clearances inadequate.

The concerns expressed regarding the design of the wheelchair ramps will be taken into consideration at construction time when the required 2.5 cm "lip" will be rounded to reduce the severity of the bump. The lip is required for drainage purposes as without it the water flowing in the gutter would pool at the bottom of the ramp creating a potential hazard for both wheelchairs and pedestrians.

Reverend Sam Smith expressed satisfaction with the contents of this report when it was discussed with him.


DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

DE:ml
Attach.

cc: Traffic Supervisor