



City of North Port
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Jason Yarborough, ICMA-CM, Acting City Manager

THROUGH: Juliana B. Bellia, Director *JBB*

Gerardo Traverso
Digitally signed by Gerardo Traverso
 Date: 2020.09.02 17:00:39 -04'00'

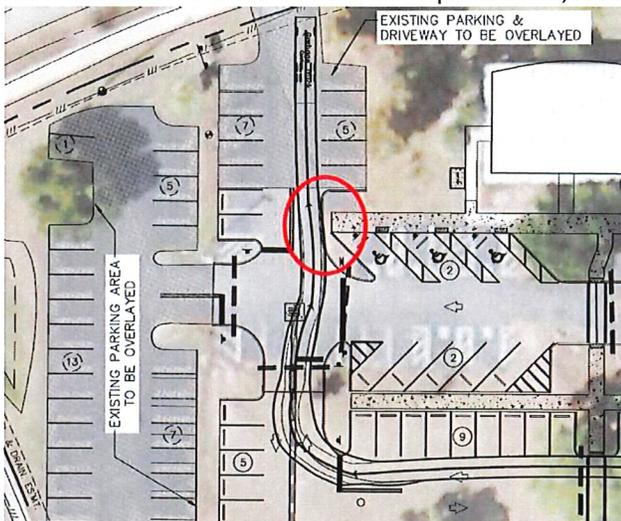
FROM: Gerardo Traverso, PE, PMP, Engineering Division Manager/City Engineer

SUBJECT: Engineering Opinion for Proposed Changes at the Senior Center Parking Lot

DATE: August 31, 2020

Based on several questions asked by the mayor before and during the August 17, 2020 Commission Meeting pertaining to the newly constructed Senior Center parking lot, it was requested from the Engineering Division by the Public Works Director to perform a field visit and engineering assessment of the parking lot with special emphasis on the gap between the newly constructed concrete sidewalk and the new pavement.

On August 19, 2020, staff conducted a field visit to evaluate the missing connection between the newly constructed sidewalk and the new pavement, see map and pictures below.



Based on the approved plans, the sidewalk on the south side of the building was constructed to provide access to the handicap spaces in the area per the American with Disabilities Act (ADA). This sidewalk is not connected and shall not be connected to the parking area due to safety concerns.

As we can see in the plan drawing and pictures on the previous page, the sidewalk will direct pedestrians to an area behind the stop bar at this location. Vehicles traveling through the parking aisle, have the expectation of stopping at the stop sign and stop bar. A pedestrian walking just before of the stop bar will create a conflict with the approaching vehicle and can result in pedestrian crashes especially with a distracted pedestrian or a distracted driver.

Now, if we look at the same sidewalk on the north side of the building, we can notice that the situation is different and a connection to the pavement was provided, see images below.



It can clearly be seen in the picture above that a vehicle traveling through the parking aisle, will be expected to stop at the stop sign and bar ahead of the actual pedestrian crossing creating a much safer condition than the one previously explained.

It is our opinion that the sidewalk on the south side of the building should not be connected to the pavement to discourage pedestrians to cross at an unsafe area. The way that the sidewalk was designed and constructed is a safe condition and as explained before, the purpose of this sidewalk is to provide access for the handicap parking spaces abutting the sidewalk.

Should you have any questions, or desire any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

/JBB

Cc: PW Electronic File
Jason Yarborough, Acting City Manager
Chuck Speake, PW Operations Manager