

**BOROUGH OF PALMYRA**

**SPECIFICATIONS FOR CURB AND SIDEWALK  
CONSTRUCTION/REPAIR**

**A PERMIT MUST BE OBTAINED BEFORE ANY WORK IS BEGUN.**

**PERMIT REQUIRED**

No curb or sidewalk construction or reconstruction shall be performed by or for any property owner unless the property owner or the person doing the work shall first have obtained from the Borough a permit for such work, which permit shall be valid for a period of sixty (60) days. A charge of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) and the additional amount of five cents per lineal foot for all footage in excess of fifty feet (50') shall be made for a permit for new curb or sidewalk construction; and a flat charge of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) for permits for reconstruction and replacement of curbing and sidewalk. Permits for driveways shall only be needed if the work encompasses construction, reconstruction or repair of sidewalk or curbing. It shall be a violation to do any work without having first secured this permit. In securing a permit, the applicant shall state the following:

- a. actual owner of real estate;
- b. number of feet of curb and sidewalk to be constructed;
- c. name of contractor to do the construction;
- d. location of pavement relative to curb and property line

PennDOT permits are required for all curb work along state highways, namely E. and W. Main St., E. and W. Ridge Rd., S. Lingle Ave., N. Grant St., N. and S. Railroad St., and S. Forge Rd. PennDOT also requires an 8" curb reveal along state highways. The PennDOT permit office may be contacted at 272-6636 or 783-0156.

**INSPECTIONS**

After the placement of stone base and prior to the pouring of concrete, you must schedule an inspection. **Inspections may be scheduled by calling the Borough Office at 838-6361 at least one day in advance to schedule an appointment with the Highway Superintendent.** Persons with a hearing disability may utilize the Pennsylvania AT&T Relay Service at 1-800-654-5984.

After receiving the notice to proceed from the Borough Inspector and after the finished pour, a final inspection must be scheduled as well.

All curb or sidewalk construction or reconstruction shall be subject to the inspection and approval at any time by Borough Council or its authorized representative. If the authorized representative of the Borough shall find any curb or sidewalk construction or reconstruction being done contrary to any provisions of this ordinance then the same shall be corrected immediately after due notice to the property owner.

## LINES AND GRADES

No curbs or sidewalks shall be constructed or reconstructed to any lines or grades other than those furnished by the authorized representative of Borough Council. Said grades will be established by stakes placed by the Borough at no cost to the owner. Thereafter it shall be the responsibility of the property owner to preserve these grades and line stakes until curb and/or pavements are installed. If the Borough is later called upon to replace stakes previously set, the owner will be billed for the actual cost of the replacement.

## SIDEWALKS

(1) All sidewalks shall have a minimum thickness of four (4) inches, placed upon four (4) inches compacted stone base.

(2) All sidewalks shall be of a minimum width of five (5) feet; provided, however, that Council may by resolution fix a different width for sidewalks in business districts, and all other sections where special circumstances may, in its discretion, justify a change from the standard width as fixed herein. Such regulations, when duly passed by Council, shall be considered as fully binding as this ordinance in fixing the width of such sidewalks.

(3) The top surface of all sidewalks shall have a wood-float finish and slope toward the street with the slope of 3/8 inch to the foot, to permit surface drainage to flow onto the street surface.

(4) All sidewalk shall be scored to a depth of one-fifth (1/5) the thickness of the concrete every five (5) feet for five (5) foot sidewalks and at intervals equal to the width of sidewalks in areas of lesser or greater value.

## CURBS

(1) All new curb along any street shall be built of concrete in accordance with specifications hereafter outlined, unless otherwise fixed by the Borough. Such curb shall be a thickness of six (6) inches with battered face and a depth of twenty (20) inches. Exposed faces must have smooth surfaces. Plastering surfaces will not be permitted.

(2) Excavation shall be made to the required depth, and the material upon which the curb is to be constructed shall be compacted for a firm, even surface. Where the sub-grade is soft, spongy, or frozen, a layer of crushed stone or cinders not less than four (4) inches thick shall be placed under the curb.

(3) **Accessible curb ramps** are required by federal law Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The law states that they shall be provided wherever an accessible pedestrian route crosses a curb, i.e. at corner sidewalk intersections and/or crosswalks. Such ramps shall be constructed or installed in accordance with the designs and specifications thereof prepared by the United State Department of Justice in the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG).

(4) **Radius curbs** shall be constructed at all intersections. The minimum radius for any curb at a street intersection shall be ten (10) feet, unless otherwise fixed by the Borough. The minimum

radius at any alley shall be three (3) feet, unless otherwise fixed by the Borough. Radius curbs at accessible pedestrian routes, sidewalk and/or crosswalk intersections shall comply with the specifications outlined above.

#### MATERIALS AND MIX

All concrete curbs, curb ramps, and sidewalks shall conform to specifications for Class A - Air entrained concrete, as specified by the PennDOT Form 408 latest edition with a minimum compressive strength of thirty five hundred (3,500) pounds per square inch after 28 days.

#### EXPANSION JOINTS

Expansion joints made with one-fourth (1/4) inch thick preformed non-extruding and resilient bituminous joint filler shall be placed every twenty (20) feet, where practical, to the full depth of curb and sidewalk, and where the sidewalk meets the outside face of a wall, curb or other permanent structure.

#### DRIVEWAYS

No new private driveways, at the sidewalk crossing, shall be constructed of anything other than concrete and meeting all of the specifications of this section. They shall have a minimum thickness of six (6) inches. A curb extending eighteen (18) inches below the gutter line shall be constructed along the street face at all driveways. Provided, however, that private driveways less than twenty (20) feet in width shall be no less than thirteen (13) inches below the gutter line; that Council may refuse to authorize the issuance of permit for construction of driveways across sidewalks, when, in its discretion, the construction of such driveways would constitute a hazard to and imperil the safety of pedestrians or vehicular traffic. The curb shall not be depressed below one (1) inch above the gutter line.

No public service curb or sidewalk boxes for access to underground facilities/utilities shall be left below or above the sidewalk level. The property owner or the owner of the same shall bring them to the grade of the new walk.

#### STREET REPAIRS

Any opening in the surface of the street or gutter, caused or made in connection with construction, reconstruction or repair of any sidewalk or curbing shall be repaired and the surface replaced immediately upon completion of the sidewalk or curb work.

#### BACKFILLING AND SEALING

After the concrete has cured sufficiently, spaces adjacent to the curb and sidewalk shall be refilled with acceptable material in layers of not more than four (4) inches in depth. Each layer shall be thoroughly compacted to the required elevation. The final layer of backfill shall consist of topsoil previously stripped, or new topsoil, and shall be properly seeded. On the roadway side of all curbs, backfill shall be brought to subgrade elevation and the subsequent six (6) inches shall be backfilled with crushed stone

macadam base material and then compacted.

The Borough will replace bituminous material and sealing on all Streets. The Borough will make no charge for bituminous material up to twelve (12) inches wide. Overage of more than twelve (12) inches will be invoiced to the property owner at the rate of \$10.00/sq. yd.

#### TREES

When replacing curb and/or sidewalk, trees are to be removed if trunk and/or roots extend beyond curb line into the street making it a hazard for vehicular traffic or street sweeping. Trees removed can be replaced with trees that are known not to grow a root structure detrimental to sidewalks, curbs and/or streets. When it is desirable to save a tree that has grown into the path of the sidewalk, curving the replacement sidewalk around the tree is permitted.

#### DEFAULT

If any property owner shall refuse or neglect to comply with the provisions of these specifications, Borough Council may, by contract or otherwise, make, lay, or have made or laid, said sidewalks or pavements, curbing and/or curb ramps; and Council shall present a bill therefore to the property owner, giving the particulars of labor and materials used, with ten percent penalty added thereon. If payment thereupon shall not be made within ten days after such presentation, Council shall certify to the Borough Solicitor a statement of the particulars of such labor and material and also the name(s) of the actual or reputed owner(s); and also the time and manner of notice given. The Borough Solicitor shall enter a lien therefore in the Court of Common Pleas of Lebanon County, and proceed to collect the amount due.

#### PENALTIES

Violations of these provisions shall upon summary conviction thereof, be liable to a penalty of not less than one hundred dollars, (\$100.00) and not more than three hundred dollars (\$300.00) and costs for each and every violation, to be collected and recovered as debts by law are now collectible, and in addition shall be liable for and shall pay to the Borough the damage caused by such violation. Each and every violation that shall persist for a period in excess of forty-five (45) days shall be deemed to be a new violation for which a successive prosecution may be brought.

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