



September 7, 2018

CITY OF ABERDEEN

Department of Public Works

Public Streets and Residential Curb, Sidewalk, Driveway Responsibilities

Purpose

This policy defines the City's financial responsibility for the maintenance and repair of all City-owned streets and alleys located within the City boundaries. Additionally, this policy defines the financial responsibility for the maintenance of all City-owned curb and sidewalk located along City owned streets and alleys within the City boundaries.

Definitions

1. **Public Right-of-Way:** As a general rule, a city or county right-of-way is an easement for public travel. (An easement is a privilege or a right, distinct from ownership, to use in some way the land of another.
2. **Private Property:** Private property is any land owned by individuals or corporations other than the government. You must get their permission to use. Private also means the owner(s) pay for maintenance.
3. **Public Property –** Public property is any government owned sidewalk, ally, lane, street, boulevard, road or street allowance, right-of-way that has been purchase by the City or dedicated to the City for public access. In general, taxes or fees collected by the government agency are charged to maintain public property for the common good of public access.

Public Street Responsibility

1. The Department of Public Works is to be financially responsible for the maintenance of all City owned streets and alleys located within the City boundaries as listed on the current "Maryland State Highway Administration Data Services Engineering Division Mileage" list and as shown on the "Aberdeen Route Number Index Map, Harford County, Maryland". This list and map provide a compilation of the current public streets within the City of Aberdeen and are updated annually.
2. Roads or alleys **NOT** listed and shown as a numerical four digit (0000) Local Road designation on the map have not been dedicated and transferred to the City or owned by the City of Aberdeen. Therefore, the Department of Public Works cannot assume responsibility for safety of access, or expand public funds for the improvement and maintenance of these roads. These roads that are NOT listed as Local Owned are considered private, either owned by a developer, a

Department of Public Works
Public Streets and Residential Curb, Sidewalk, Driveway Responsibilities

corporation, or owned by another government agency that has jurisdiction and responsibility for the safety of access and maintenance thereof.

3. If an owner of a Private Road 1) provides documentation supporting the position that a street should be listed as public and provided to the City of Aberdeen b) offers the road to the city through a formal dedication via a transfer of land and titles, the City will review the documentation. Once accepted the street will be added to the inventory and be eligible for City funding, to include safety of access to the public and maintenance of responsibilities provided by the Department of Public Works.

Curb, Sidewalk and Driveway Responsibility

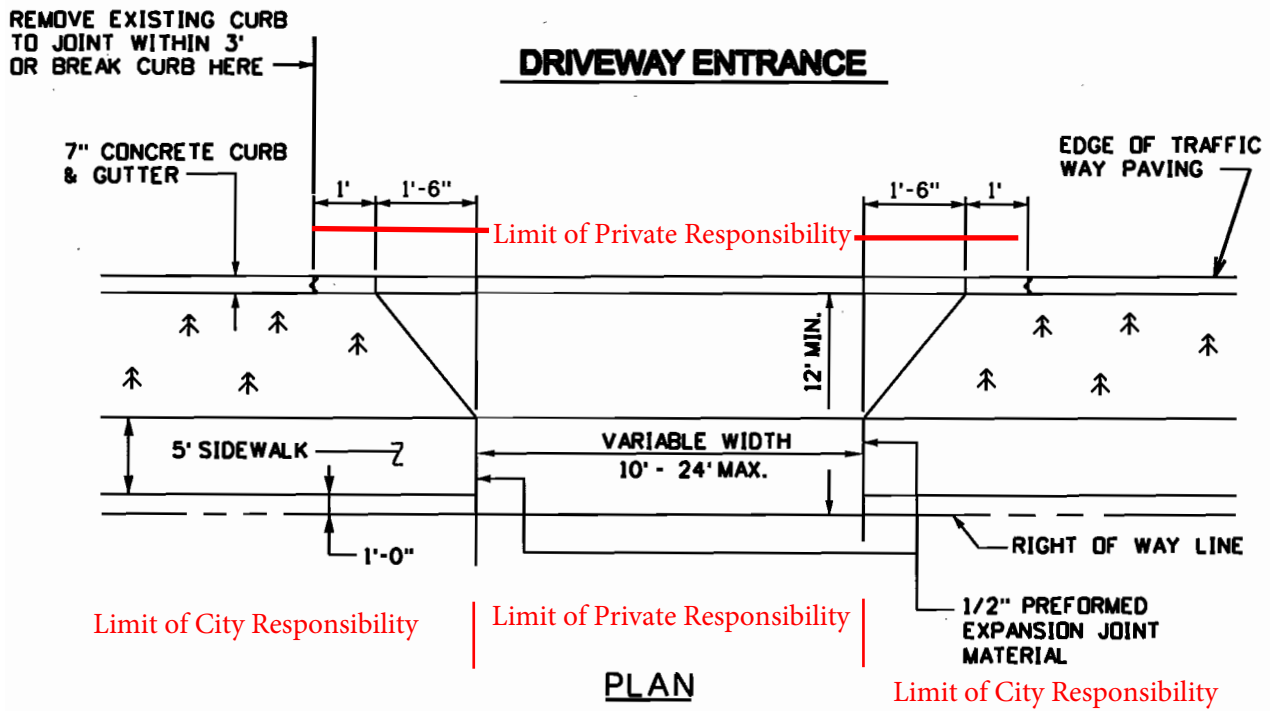
1. The Department of Public Works is to be financially responsible for the maintenance of all city owned curb and sidewalk located along City owned streets and alleys within the City boundaries. This responsibility does **NOT** include the maintenance of driveway aprons or approaches. See attached details (enclose 1). Maintenance of Sidewalks as defined by the Department of Public Works includes the repair and replacement of sidewalks.
2. Property Owner maintenance of sidewalks and curbs to include the form of raking leaves, removal of vegetation, and shoveling /clearing of snow in which the sidewalk and curbing crosses through or abuts adjacent to.
3. The Department of Public Works does not replace/repair sidewalks or concrete curbing that is damaged by the use of salt which may cause spalding of concrete. Spalding is defined as the presence of water entering concrete that forces the surface to peel, pop out or flake. Additionally, the Department does not replace failed curb, aprons or sidewalk within the limits of the driveway access.
4. Property owners are responsible for replacing driveway aprons and adjacent curbing to the public roads when making repairs to their driveway. This cost of the repair/replacement of an apron and curbing intersecting or abutting the public road shall be the responsibility thereof of the property that it serves.
5. The Department of Public Works may replace curbs, aprons and/or sidewalk considered under the property owner's responsibility as part of a larger maintenance/replacement construction contract at the City's option. Determination of this option is based on the overall scope of the project and what it the maintenance/repair is intended to address within the City's responsibility to maintain.



Kyle E. Torster, P.E.
Director of Public Works

Attachment (1)

1. Driveway Residential Detail



Typical Residential Driveway

Property owner shall be responsible for curb and driveway paving extending from the back of the curb including the apron between the curb and sidewalk, the sidewalk, and the drive area between the sidewalk and the R/W line.