



July 30, 2022

City of Gahanna
Attn: Property Appeals Board

RE: 2021 Sidewalk Maintenance Program Appeal, 242 Empire Drive, Parcel ID 025-002602, Appeal PAB-00102922

The City of Gahanna Engineering Division has reviewed appeal file PAB-00102922 submitted regarding the 2021 Sidewalk Maintenance Program Plan and Specifications for the property located at 242 Empire Drive, Gahanna. Upon a July 28, 2022 field inspection of the sidewalks adjacent to the property, the Engineering Division confirmed that the defects listed on the Plan and Specifications meet the City of Gahanna Sidewalk Maintenance Guidelines for needing repair.

Based on the dialog and photos provided by the appellant, it seems there is confusion on the panels requiring repair. Therefore, we have added the sidewalk point numbers to the photos the appellant provided to help provide clarification on the panels requiring repair. We have also provided photos of the July 28 inspection of the panels noted on the Plan and Specifications for the property. The inspection verified all the inspection data completed in April 2022, not just the primary defect noted on the Plan and Specification. Since the appellant made reference to the cross slope of a newer section of sidewalk, we also inspected that panel to confirm its cross slope is compliant with our guidelines that state the cross slope shall be a maximum of 7 percent. Upon inspection, the newer sidewalk panel (point 2) was found to be compliant with a cross slope of 5.7%.

During reinspection, sidewalk panel **point 5** was found to have a cross slope of 7.8%. Panel **point 6** was found to have excessive cracking, defined as cracks breaking the sidewalk into pieces less than 2 feet across in any direction, and have a cross slope of 8.4%. **Point 7** was found to have excessive cracking and project above the adjacent panel (point 8) by 1-7/16 inches. The Sidewalk Maintenance Guidelines define the maximum allowable vertical offset between two panels as 1/4 inch. **Point 14** was found to have excessive cracking. This panel is near a tree located on private property ("private tree"). Upon review, it is of my professional opinion that the cracking does not look to be caused by the private tree. In addition, as mentioned in the City of Gahanna Ordinance 521.06 (e)4E, only trees within the right-of-way may be removed by the City as part this Program.

Respectfully,

Caitlyn Ridge, PE
Interim City Engineer

Attachments:
242 Empire Drive Sidewalk Maintenance Program Plan and Specifications
Sidewalk Maintenance Guidelines
Appellant photos with points identified
Inspection data (April 2022)
Inspection photos (July 2022)