



CITY OF ATLANTA


KASIM REED
MAYOR

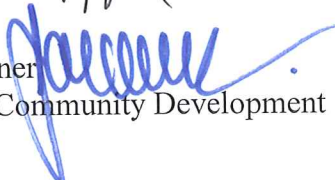
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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Richard Mendoza
Commissioner

MEMORANDUM

TO: Department of Planning and Community Development Plan Review Staff
Department of Public Works Plan Review Staff

FROM: Richard Mendoza, Commissioner 
Department of Public Works

James E. Shelby, Commissioner 
Department of Planning and Community Development

DATE: February 21, 2014

SUBJECT: Pedestrian Right of Way Access Policy

The following Pedestrian Right of Way Access Policy designates procedures to be implemented for the treatment of sidewalks during construction activity. This policy is to be enforced by the Department of Public Works and Department of Planning and Community Development when reviewing development plans for construction that impacts the pedestrian right of way/sidewalks.

- Sidewalk closures should be scheduled to coincide with the start and end of construction within the sidewalk; construction schedules are mandatory when applying for a right of way permit. In order to insure that a sidewalk adjacent to a construction site is not closed for extended period of time, construction activity within the foot prints of the sidewalk should be limited to extent possible. A temporary wheelchair accessible sidewalk using available material such as plywood over the distributed sidewalk could be provided. Construction schedules are mandatory when applying for a right of way permit. Closures should be limited to 90 day increments with conditional extensions to be approved by the Commissioner of Public Works. This limited permit period is required to insure extended sidewalk closure does not take place.

- Partial sidewalk closures are to be allowed only if a safe, passable thoroughfare not less than 4ft wide, with ADA access at intersections and separation from construction by approved safety barriers can be achieved.
- A temporary covered, lighted walkway is to be constructed for pedestrians if a 4ft wide pedestrian access cannot be provided and if the height of the building is more than three stories or 40ft; this will apply to new building construction or maintenance to a building.
- A temporary pedestrian route shall be created using the adjacent travel lane if a 4ft wide pedestrian access cannot be achieved and if approved by City engineer; barricades, signage and ADA accessibility for pedestrian safety must be provided.
- If a wheelchair accessible pedestrian passageway cannot be provided using the one of methodologies outlined above, the City may allow detouring of pedestrian traffic in extenuating circumstances. If pedestrian traffic has been approved to be re-directed to cross on the other side of the street and that right of way (sidewalks/intersections) does not meet current ADA requirements; it is the contractor's responsibility to bring it up to code and meet all other signage and barricade requirements before the sidewalk closure permit will be issued.
- If a contractor cannot meet any of the above due to the structural necessities of the work to be completed then pedestrian traffic can be directed to cross to the other side of the street. Proper signage must be provided at each pedestrian accessible intersection.
- The need for vehicular parking for contractors is not an acceptable reason for approval of any of the above guidelines.

If you have any questions, please contact Shelley Peart, Public Works Manager, Sr., at ext. 6781.

c: Charletta Wilson Jacks, Department of Planning
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