



Approaches



Department of Public Works

Overview

This brochure serves as a guide for when an approach permit is necessary. It is derived from The Spokane County Road Standards 3.22, and 3.24.

When is an Approach Permit Necessary

All approaches that connect to a county road require an approach permit. There are two types of approaches: urban and rural.

Urban approaches are approaches that have a curb. Information regarding Urban Approaches can be found in Public Works brochure E-4.

Rural approaches are approaches with no curb. Information regarding rural approaches can be found in Public Works brochure E-3.

Private Driveways

Private driveways that connect to county roads require an approach permit and can access up to 3 lots or parcels (see Building and Planning brochure BP-17)

Private Roads

See brochure PW- for information on Private Roads.

Unmaintained Roads

Unmaintained County roads require a Public notice #4 before issuance of Approach permit.

Summer Roads

Approaches are not permitted on Spokane County Summer Roads (Spokane County Road Standards 1.14)

When an approach permit is not necessary to obtain from Spokane County:

An approach permit is not necessary to obtain on private roads within a subdivision or plat.

The 2ND AND 3RD parcel on a private driveway do not need an approach permit but there must be a recorded easement.

Approaches accessing a State Highway or any other road that belongs to another jurisdiction do not require a Spokane County Approach permit. Please contact the appropriate jurisdiction for approach permitting.

Flood Plains

Parcels with Flood plains require a Flood Plain permit before an approach permit can be issued. Review-only permits are issued if the proposed approach and structure are 10 feet above the flood elevation and 100 feet away from the flood zone. A site-visit or certificate of elevation may be required prior to issuance of permit.

Wetlands

Parcels with Wetlands require approval from Planning department before issuance of Approach permit.

Other brochures that may be helpful

- E-3 Rural Residential Approaches
- E-4 Urban Residential Approaches
- BP-17 Fire Apparatus Access Road Standards
- BP-28 Private Driveways
- PW-1 Private Roads



Urban Residential Approaches

E-4

How do I determine an urban approach?

If your street has a curb, or a curb and sidewalk, you have an urban approach to your driveway.

Why do I need a permit for an urban approach?

A permit is required so that the county may inspect the forms for the apron prior to the pour. Also, to make sure there are no rough edges left from the curb cut or damage to the asphalt.

Am I allowed to cut the curb?

If you wish to cut the curb or hire a contractor that is not bonded and insured with Spokane County to do the work then it will be necessary to leave a cash surety in lieu of bond. The check will be deposited in an account and will be refunded to you after the county approves the final inspection.

I have a friend that is a contractor and has a bond with his state contractors license, may I use him to cut the curb?

You may, but you will still need to post a surety unless the contractor also has a street obstruction bond with Spokane County.

Does the county have a list of bonded contractors?

There is a list which is for county use only. If you wish to submit a list of contractors names, we can tell you which ones are bonded with Spokane County.

If a contractor has a street obstruction bond with the City of Spokane, is that acceptable?

The bond is only valid when working on the city right of way.

Once the curb drop is in, may I add crushed rock instead of pouring an apron?

Crushed rock is only allowed where there is no curb. If there is any kind of curb, standard, rolled, asphalt, etc., then a concrete or asphalt apron is required.

Do I have to have concrete or asphalt pave all of the driveway?

Only the portion in the county right of way. (See handout BP-17, "Private Driveway Standards" for further information.

When does the approach need to be inspected?

When the forms are complete prior to pouring the concrete.

How do I request an inspection?

Call the Division of Engineering and Roads at least two working days in advance and schedule an inspection with the dispatcher. Be sure you have your permit number available.

How wide should a residential approach be?

It may be 16 to 30 feet wide.

Is it possible to have an approach wider than 30 feet?

Request a design deviation form. There is a charge for this process.

If I want to widen an existing approach, do I need a permit?

Yes, and it will require an inspection by the county.

Is there a limit as to how many driveways a residence may have?

The total width of all driveways on a street for any one ownership shall not exceed 50% of the frontage of that ownership along the street and shall not be more than two in number unless first approved by the county engineer.

How close to my property line may I have the driveway?

No driveway shall be located closer than seven and one-half feet from any property line.

How close to an intersecting street may the driveway be located?

No closer than 20 feet from the tangent curb line of a side or intersecting street.

What grades are acceptable?

Driveway approach grades within right of way shall not exceed 8% (a rate of rise or descent of 2 feet in 100 feet) in rural areas. Driveway grades shall not exceed ten percent within ten feet of a county road right of way.

There is an existing curb drop on my lot that does not line up with the future location of my garage, what do I need to meet county requirements?

When your new approach is constructed, it will be necessary to close the original drop with curb or curb and sidewalk. You may keep the original curb drop as long as your total width of driveways on the street does not exceed 50% of your frontage and you install an apron at the same time the driveway for the garage is constructed.

There is a utility pole where I would like to have my approach, is it possible to get the pole moved?

Contact the public facility responsible for the utility pole but be advised that all costs for the relocation shall be borne by the applicant.

What should the length and thickness of the concrete apron be?

See handout A-7, "Cement Concrete Approaches."

Am I allowed to take out a permit for a friend or relative?

Yes, but be advised that the person signing the permit is the one responsible for completing the requirements..

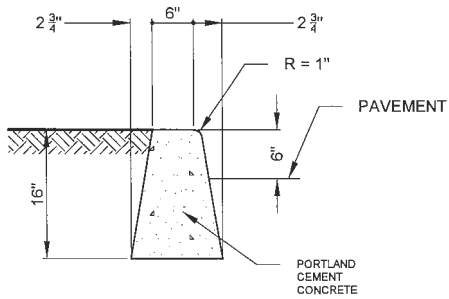
Permit and Inspection Fees

Permit Fee \$125.00
Curb Cut Surety \$500.00
Working without a permit fine \$500.00

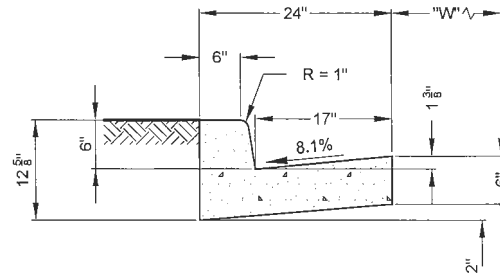
Other brochures that maybe helpful

A-3 Curbs & Gutters
A-4 Urban Driveways & Separated Sidewalks
A-7 Cement Concrete Approaches
BP-17 Fire Apparatus Access Road Standards
BP-28 Private Driveways
PW-1 Private Roads

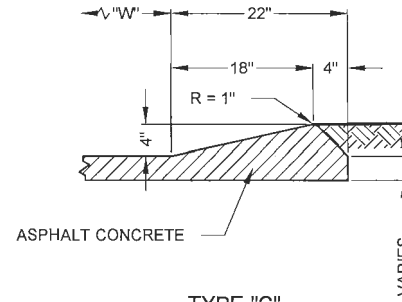
**For information or an appointment contact
Spokane County Public Works Dept.
Division of Engineering and Roads
1026 W. Broadway Avenue
Spokane, Washington 99260-0170
publicworkspermits@spokanecounty.org
Permit Center (509) 477-7151
Inspection Line (509) 477-7660
Front Desk (509) 477-3600**



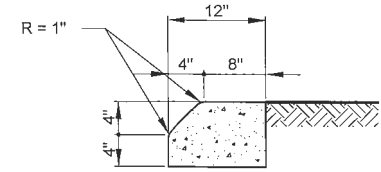
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 SEE NOTE 5



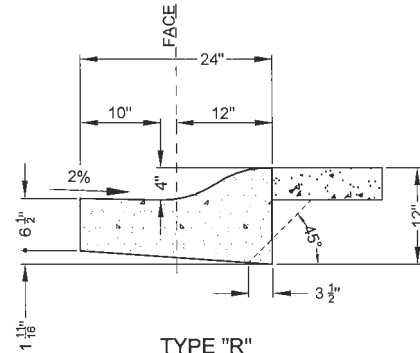
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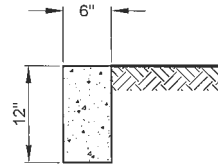
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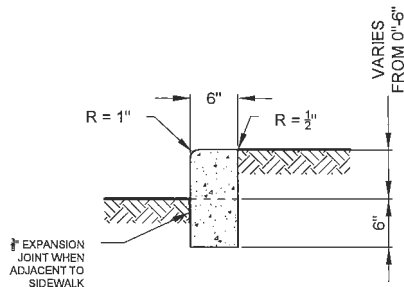
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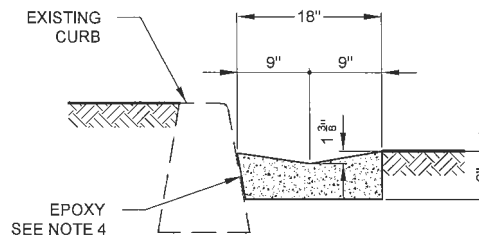
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TYPE "S"
 QUANTITY = 0.018519 C.Y. / L.F.



TYPE "PED"
 QUANTITY = VARIES



CONCRETE GUTTER
 QUANTITY = 0.024419 C.Y. / L.F.

GENERAL NOTES

1. PORTLAND CEMENT CONCRETE SHALL BE 6-SACK COMMERCIAL CONFORMING TO THE STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS.
2. WEAKENED PLANE JOINTS FOR PORTLAND CEMENT CONCRETE SHALL BE PLACED AT 2 TIMES SIDEWALK WIDTH OR 12' MAX. & SHALL MATCH SCORES IN SIDEWALK WHERE APPLICABLE. 4" WIDE BY 3/8" EXPANSION JOINTS IN PORTLAND
3. CEMENT CONCRETE SHALL BE PLACED AT CURB RETURNS.
4. EPOXY CEMENT SHALL BE APPLIED AT A 10-15 MIL THICKNESS AND SHALL CONFORM TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 9-26 OF THE STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS.
5. TO BE USED ONLY IN SPECIAL CASES WITH APPROVAL OF THE COUNTY ENGINEER.
6. 92% COMPACTION UNDER SIDEWALK AND 95% UNDER CURB. (MODIFIED PROCTOR)
7. EXPANSION JOINT SHALL BE PLACED TO ENSURE COMPLETE SEPARATION OF CONCRETE.
8. 4" MIN. CSTC UNDER ALL CURBS. (INCIDENTAL) TYP.

SPOKANE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
 SPOKANE, WA. 99260 477-3600

APPROVED
 COUNTY ENGINEER
 DATE: 5/1/17

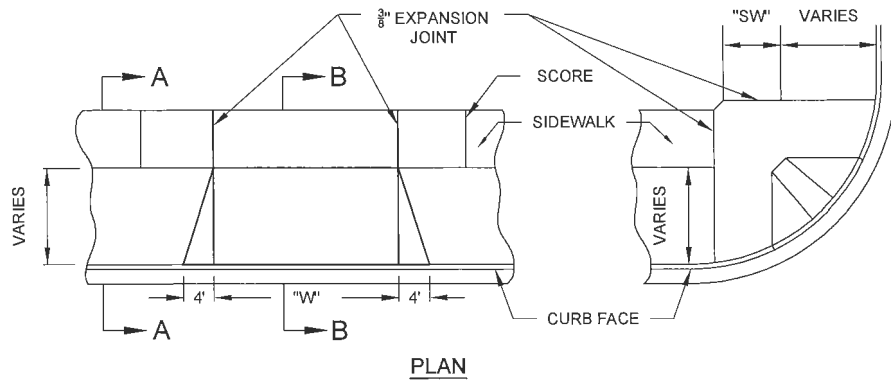


STANDARD
CURBS & GUTTERS

NO. DATE BY CKD. APPR.

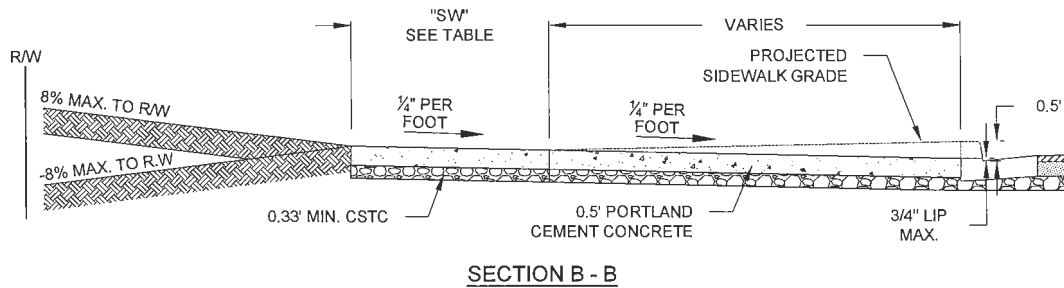
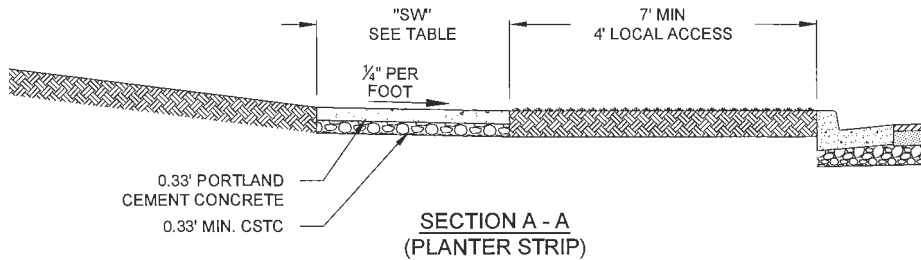
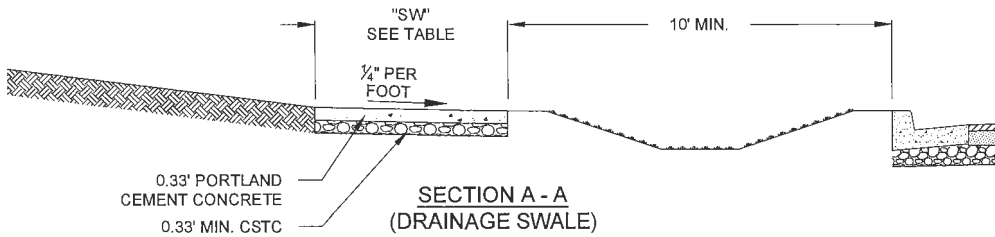
REVISION

SHEET
 A - 3



GENERAL NOTES

1. FULL DEPTH 4" WIDE BY 3/8" EXPANSION JOINT MATERIAL SHALL BE PLACED IN THE CENTER OF ALL DRIVEWAYS OVER 20' IN WIDTH.
2. 4" WIDE BY 3/8" EXPANSION JOINT REQUIRED IF POUR INCLUDES ADDITIONAL DRIVEWAY AREA.
3. CONCRETE FOR DRIVEWAYS SHALL BE 6-SACK COMMERCIAL AIR ENTRAINED.
4. ALL EXTERNAL EDGES TO BE TOWELED WITH 1/4" RADIUS EDGER.
5. SIDEWALK TO BE SCORED EVERY 5'. 4" WIDE BY 3/8" EXPANSION JOINT TO BE INSTALLED EACH SIDE OF A CURB RETURN AND AT LOCATIONS WHERE SIDEWALK INTERSECTS OTHER SIDEWALKS, DRIVEWAYS AND CURBS, EVERY 50' MAXIMUM.
6. THE WIDTH OF COMMERCIAL DRIVEWAYS MAY BE WIDER THAN SHOWN, IF APPROVED BY THE COUNTY ENGINEER.
7. SEE SHEET A-5 (WHEEL CHAIR RAMPS)
8. SEE SHEET A-7 (CEMENT CONCRETE APPROACHES)



DIMENSION TABLE

| TYPE | DISTANCES | |
|-------|-----------|------|
| | "W" | |
| | MIN. | MAX. |
| COMM. | 16' | 40' |
| RES. | 16' | 30' |

SEPARATED SIDEWALK

| WIDTHS | |
|--------------------|---------|
| ROAD TYPE | "SW" |
| RESIDENTIAL ACCESS | 5' MIN. |
| OTHER | 6' MIN. |

SPOKANE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
 SPOKANE, WA. 99260 477-3600

APPROVED
 COUNTY ENGINEER
 DATE: 9/6/17

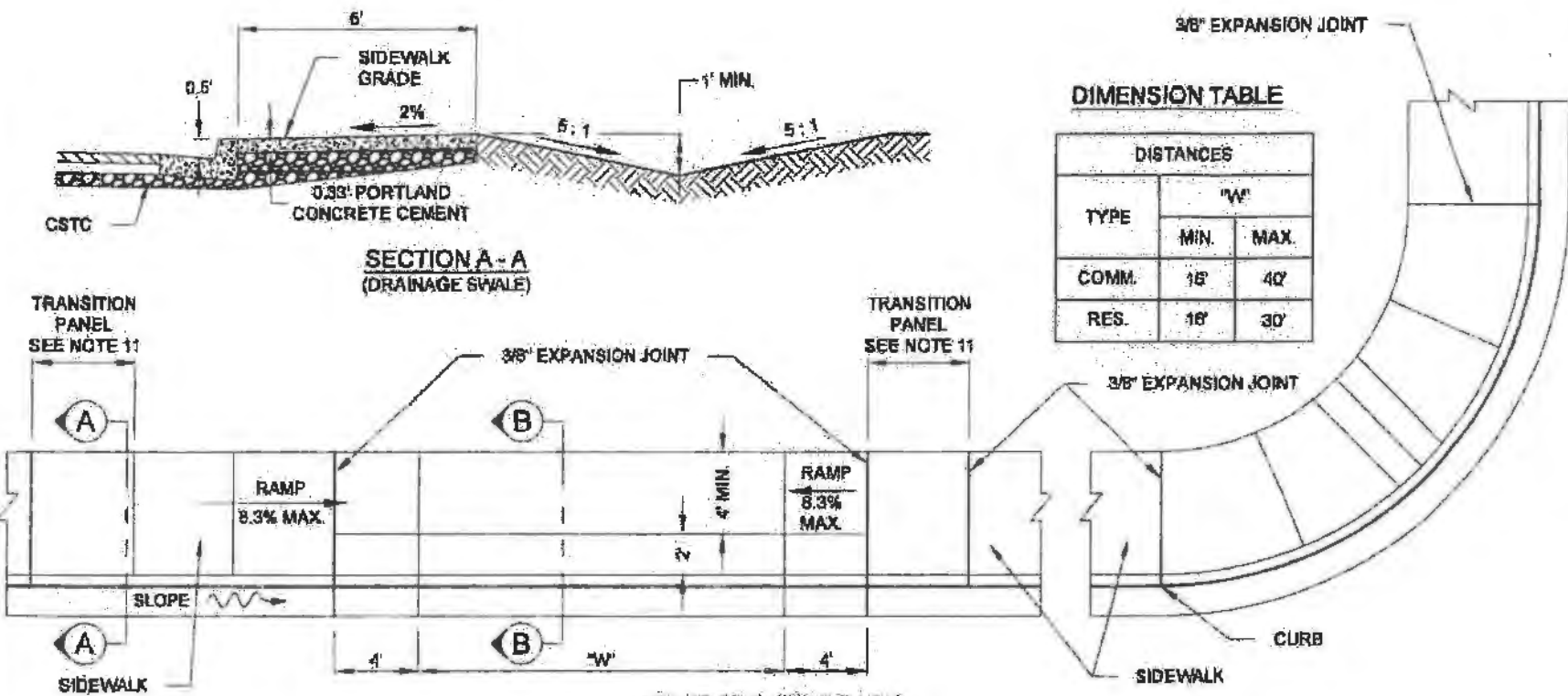


STANDARD
 URBAN DRIVEWAYS - SEPARATED SIDEWALKS

| NO. | DATE | BY | CKD. | APPR. | REVISION |
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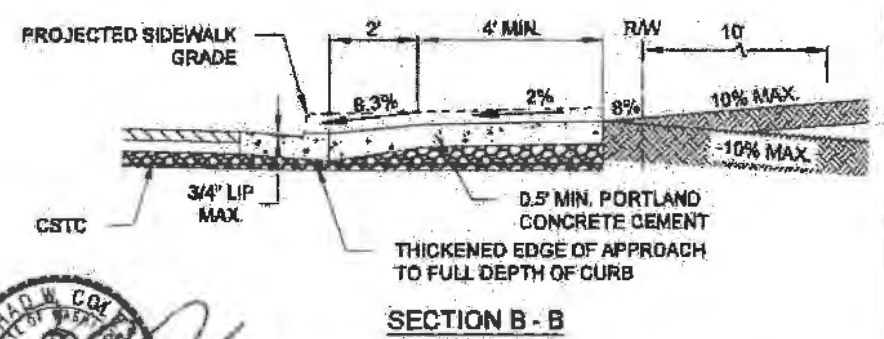
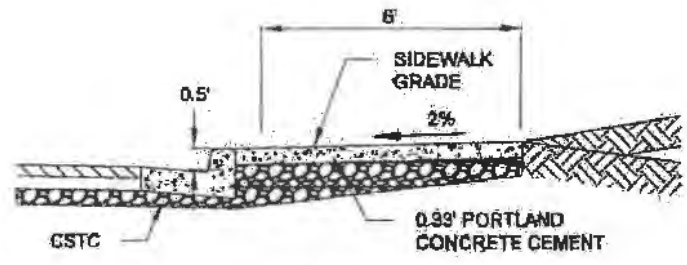
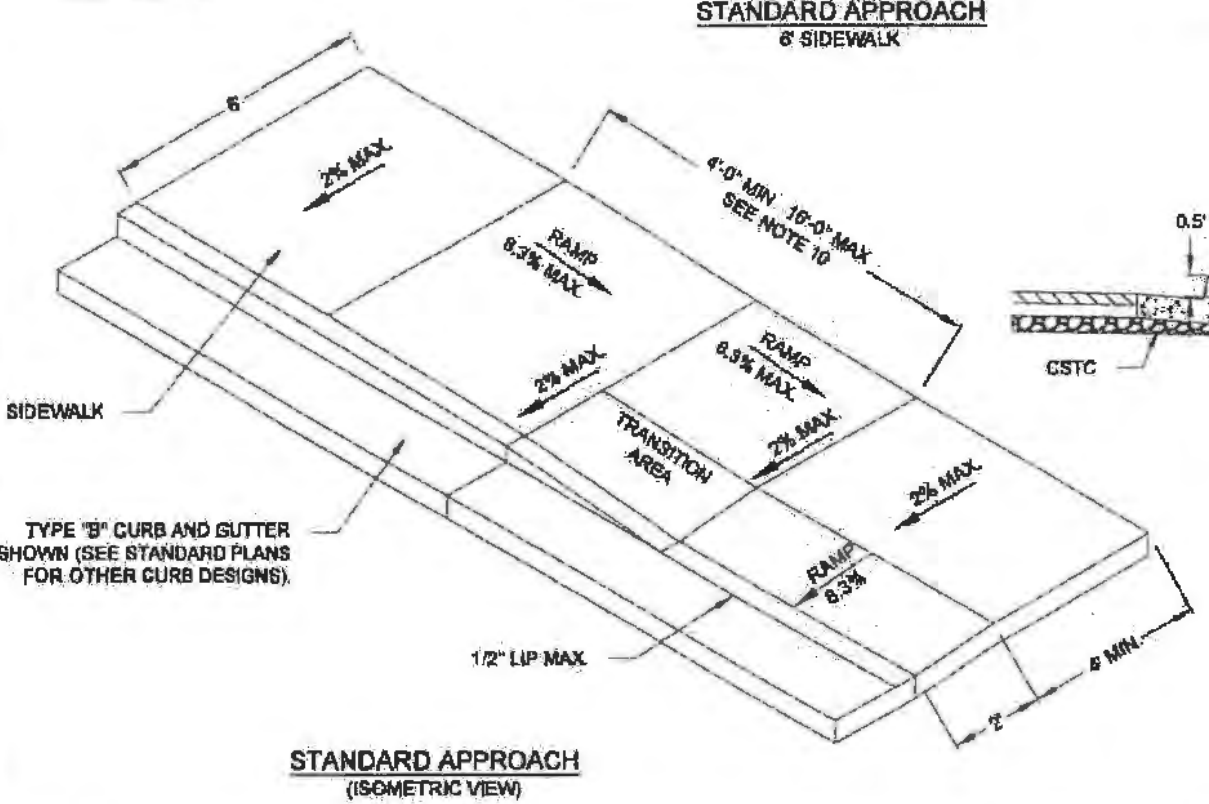
SHEET
 A - 4

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DIMENSION TABLE

| TYPE | DISTANCES | |
|-------|-----------|------|
| | MIN. | MAX. |
| COMM. | 18' | 40' |
| RES. | 18' | 30' |



- GENERAL NOTES**
- EXPANSION JOINT MATERIAL SHALL BE PLACED IN THE CENTER OF ALL DRIVEWAY APPROACHES OVER 20' IN WIDTH.
 - EXPANSION JOINT REQUIRED IF POUR INCLUDES ADDITIONAL DRIVEWAY AREA.
 - CONCRETE FOR DRIVEWAYS SHALL BE 6-SACK COMMERCIAL AIR ENTRAINED.
 - ALL EXTERNAL EDGES TO BE TROWELLED WITH 1/4" RADIUS EDGER.
 - SIDEWALK TO BE SCORED EVERY 6', 4" WIDE BY 3/8" EXPANSION JOINT TO BE INSTALLED EACH SIDE OF A CURB RETURN AND AT LOCATIONS WHERE SIDEWALK INTERSECTS OTHER SIDEWALKS, DRIVEWAYS AND CURBS, EVERY 16' MAXIMUM.
 - EXPANSION JOINT SHALL BE PLACED TO ENSURE COMPLETE SEPARATION OF CONCRETE.
 - THE COUNTY ENGINEER MAY REQUIRE A WIDER SIDEWALK THAN MINIMUM, WHERE PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC VOLUMES INDICATE IT IS WARRANTED.
 - CEMENT CONCRETE APPROACHES SHALL BE CONSTRUCTED AT ALL CURB DROP LOCATIONS TO INSURE STORMWATER FLOW ALONG GUTTER LINE REGARDLESS OF SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION.
 - 95% COMPACTION UNDER APPROACHES, 82% COMPACTION UNDER SIDEWALKS. (MODIFIED PROCTOR)
 - IF THE ADJACENT ROADWAY GRADE IS SUCH THAT AN 8.3% RAMP SLOPE CANNOT BE ACHIEVED IN 16', THE RAMP LENGTH MAY BE LIMITED TO 15' WITH NO MAXIMUM SLOPE REQUIREMENT.
 - TRANSITION PANELS ARE REQUIRED ON RETROPTS WHEN THE CROSS SLOPE OF THE EXISTING SIDEWALK EXCEEDS 2%.

| NO. | DATE | BY | CHKD. | APPR. | REVISION |
|-----|------|----|-------|-------|----------|
| | | | | | |

SPOKANE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
SPOKANE, WA 99202 477-3882

APPROVED
 COUNTY ENGINEER
 DATE: 9/11/17



STANDARD
CEMENT CONCRETE APPROACHES

SHEET
A - 7