

(GENERAL)

COMPTROLLER FILE NUMBER 266205

PETITION OF

COUNCIL MEMBER JEANETTE WILLIAMS FOR THE CITY TO PROVIDE RAMPS AT CERTAIN INTERSECTIONS FOR USE BY PEOPLE IN WHEELCHAIRS.

*3-17-70 ny to City Engrs.
10-25-72 file*

FILED MARCH 16, 1970

C. G. ERLANDSON
COMPTROLLER AND CITY CLERK

BY *J. F. Fenton* DEPUTY

ACTION OF THE COUNCIL

REFERRED	TO
<u>MARCH 16, 1970</u>	<u>TRANSPORTATION STG & SEWERS</u>
REFERRED	TO
REFERRED	TO
REPORTED	DISPOSITION
<u>OCT 30 1972</u>	<u>On File</u>
RE-REFERRED	TO
REPORTED	DISPOSITION

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

Mr. President:

Your TRANSPORTATION

to which was referred the within PETITION

Committee

would respectfully report that we have considered the same and respectfully recommend that

THE SAME BE PLACED ON FILE

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C. G. ERLANDSON
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 BY *J.R. Foster* DEPUTY

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CHAIRMAN

Tim Hill
TIM HILL

CHAIRMAN



CITY OF SEATTLE
DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING
ROBERT J. GULINO, CITY ENGINEER
MEMBER, BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

Wes Uhlman, Mayor

Seattle Municipal Building, Room 910
600 Fourth Avenue, Seattle, Washington 98104

Via: Mayor Wes Uhlman

March 27, 1972

Honorable Transportation Committee
of the City Council

Gentlemen:

During the past two years the Traffic and Transportation Division of the Engineering Department has studied the feasibility of wheelchair ramps constructed at street corners within the City of Seattle. The study, involving citizen input as well as technical study, resulted in the production of a standard design and plan for wheelchair ramps which was adopted by the City of Seattle Board of Public Works in February 1972.

Since funding for Public Works projects is limited, and that which is available is committed for many years in the future, and considering the importance of wheelchair ramp installation, the Engineering Department is adopting the following policy for construction of wheelchair ramps.

1. Wheelchair ramps will be constructed and included as part of all future local improvement district and street improvement construction plans. This work will generally not result in an increase in cost of the project and will provide continuity of wheelchair ramps throughout the improved area.
2. Wheelchair ramps will be constructed in all future sidewalk and curb reconstruction projects, such as sewer developments which cross and require the removal and replacement of sidewalks and other similar types of construction not principally aimed at rebuilding the street system. Installation of wheelchair ramps on these projects should not result in a significant increase in the cost of the project; however, they will tend to result in a dissimilar pattern of wheelchair ramps from one side of the street to the other. That is to say, a wheelchair ramp may exist on one side of the street and not on the opposite side of the street. While this dissimilarity is not a desirable situation, funding limitations on projects such as sewer installations will not allow expenditure of street reconstruction funds at locations which were not actually disturbed by the sewer construction.

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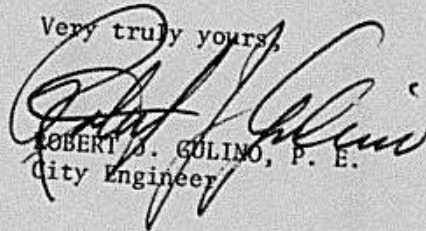
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT
& BUDGET

Honorable Transportation Committee
March 27, 1972
Page 2

The Engineering Department will make an effort to locate funding sources which would allow the exclusive construction of wheelchair ramps in areas having existing sidewalks and curbs that will not be affected by other types of construction. At this time we do not know of a source of funds for this type of work nor have we developed a program and appropriate priority system for installation of the ramps when and if funds are found. The installation of wheelchair ramps at every intersection in the City of Seattle would be extremely expensive, if and when funds are found to specifically install the wheelchair ramps. Therefore, it will be necessary to establish a priority system so that the ramps are placed in the locations where they will provide the greatest service and continuity of movement to handicapped persons of the City of Seattle.

This report is submitted to you to inform you of our progress and policies in the area of wheelchair ramps. If you have any questions concerning this matter, we would be glad to discuss them with you.

Very truly yours,



ROBERT J. GOLINO, P. E.
City Engineer

BWF:fl

cc: Mayor Wes Uhlman
Mrs. Jeanette Williams, City Council
Mrs. Betty McFarlane,
Board of Public Works
Mr. D. L. Jonas
Mr. W. E. P. Smith
Mr. P. A. Wiatrak
Mr. E. W. Ott
Mr. J. E. Arnberg
Mr. P. J. Wysocki
Office of Human Relations

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CITY OF SEATTLE
DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING
ROY W. MORSE, CITY ENGINEER
MEMBER, BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

Wes Uhlman, Mayor

Seattle Municipal Building, Room 910
600 Fourth Avenue, Seattle, Washington 98104

August 21, 1970

Re: C.F. 266205

The Honorable Streets and Sewers Committee
of the City Council
Seattle, Washington

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to your memorandum dated March 18, 1970, petition of Council Member Jeanette Williams for the City, we are investigating wheelchair curb ramps. We are attempting to contact all cities in the United States that are known to use them so that we may have the benefit of their experience and design criteria.

While ramps will obviously be an advantage to the handicapped person, we believe that they could have a negative effect upon the unimpaired pedestrian. We want to be certain that we can cope with these negative features prior to adopting an official policy relative to their use.

We would like to note, however, that we have installed eight experimental ramps on 15th Avenue N.E. at N.E. 40th and N.E. 41st Streets. These ramps have been constructed in conjunction with a street redevelopment project and should provide an excellent opportunity to test their effectiveness. We are planning to observe and evaluate these ramps over a two-year period while accumulating as much external input as possible.

We will advise you periodically of our progress on this project.

Very truly yours,

ROY W. MORSE, P.E.
City Engineer

By

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Philip M. Buswell'.

PHILIP M. BUSWELL, P.E.
Principal Assistant City Engineer

BWF:js



CITY OF SEATTLE
DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING
ROY W. MORSE, CITY ENGINEER
MEMBER, BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

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ROY W. MORSE, P.E.
City Engineer

By sgd. Philip M. Buswell
PHILIP M. BUSWELL, P.E.
Principal Assistant City Engineer

BWF:js

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THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE

1106 SEATTLE MUNICIPAL BUILDING

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98104

JEANETTE WILLIAMS, CHAIRMAN
JUDICIARY AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL
MAR 11 8 54 AM '70
J.M.W.

March 10, 1970

CITY COUNCIL
City of Seattle

Honorable Members:

I would like to request that the Streets and Sewers Committee study the feasibility for providing ramps at certain intersections for those persons using wheelchairs.

The University of Washington is presently starting such a program.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Williams, Chairman
Judiciary and Personnel Committee

JW:1cm