



COTHREN, GRAFF, SMOAK ENGINEERING, INC.

CIVIL ♦ ENVIRONMENTAL ♦ SANITARY ♦ STRUCTURAL ♦ MECHANICAL ♦ ELECTRICAL

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August 22, 2024

Paige Yohn
GFA Partners
304 N. Washington Street
Marshall, Texas 75670

Re: Streetscape Improvements

Dear Ms. Yohn:

I made a site visit on July 11th, at your request, to observe the sidewalk and drainage improvements currently being constructed in the 300 block of North Washington Street in Marshall Texas.

The improvements generally consist of removal of the existing sidewalk from the street curb to the front wall of the buildings, replacement of the street curb/gutter, replacement of portions of the subsurface drainage system, construction of the new sidewalk. The new sidewalk extends from the street curb mentioned above to the adjacent buildings. The proposed improvements are shown on engineering plans.

I noted, by observation and by use of a carpenter's level, that the newly constructed sidewalk sloped downward toward the buildings in several locations. This condition causes water to drain to the buildings which then pools on the walk, pools against the building, or drains through the construction joint at the face of the buildings. When the water pools against the building, there is a possibility that water can penetrate the building facade and damage the structure.

I reviewed the construction plans made available to me and saw that the proposed grades on the walks and curbs, if followed, would have the surface water draining away from the buildings and over the street curb.

Based on my cursory review of the constructed conditions, I opine that the contractor has not constructed the improvements in accordance with the plans.

Please feel free to contact me if you have questions or would like to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

K. Randal Smoak, P.E.

Cothren, Graff, Smoak Engineering, Inc.