

November 28, 2017

Dear Councillor DeMaria,

Thank you for taking time to visit and survey parking at Fellsmere Park and Pond today. The following notes and images provide a recap of our discussion.

Best wishes,  
Brian DeLacey

At present, there is no handicapped parking anywhere along the immediate border of Fellsmere Park or Pond. The following aerial image shows the area under consideration, which we believe to provide the most convenient and safest access to the park for a vehicle with handicapped tags:



Source: Google Maps

We agreed this area was conveniently placed for a handicapped parking spot. It appears the low, sloping piece of curbstone in the following photo might be removed, with a ADA compliant ramp added. Our discussion involved painting handicapped markings on the pavement.



Image Source: Brian DeLacey, photo taken 11/28/17

We focused on this area as relatively safe and protected. We also concurred that the Handicapped parking space should be long and large enough for a wheelchair van or other comparable vehicle which might be used to transport multiple handicapped individuals to the park. Requirements for van-accessible parking spaces is at [https://www.ada.gov/restriping\\_parking/restriping2015.html](https://www.ada.gov/restriping_parking/restriping2015.html).

We discussed the idea for parking parallel to the existing curb, as if a space were being added to the front of a residence on a city street. However, parallel parking (versus head-on parking) poses a number of accessibility issues which may push us to rethink the location or may require additional sidewalk work to achieve the desired layout. The following photo shows one example of semi-accessible parallel parking:



Image source: <http://disabilitysmartsolutions.com/AccessibilityConsulting/accessible-parallel-parking/>.

An existing crosswalk, with curb cut and sidewalk access is a short distance away, allowing existing access routes if the curb cut above were deemed impractical or prohibitively expensive.



Image Source: Brian DeLacey, photo taken 11/28/17

We also observed this metal gate and wooden post nearby the proposed handicapped parking spot. Our sense was the spacing of these posts allows for safe passage between them for a pedestrian with a walker, along with an aide, or a wheelchair.

It would be desirable to remove the grassy dirt around the wooden pole and smooth that surface. It appears minimal effort and cost would be required to transform this location into a nicely graded access point with gradual slope which would be friendly to wheelchairs and walkers.



Image Source: Brian DeLacey, photo taken 11/28/17