



City of
Saskatoon

Infrastructure Services
Department

January 13, 2004
File No. 6000-9

Shane Olson, BSA Econ
CEO Shecom Industries
Box 313
Saskatoon, SK S7K 3J7

Dear Shane:

Re: Use of Shercom Industries Curb Ramps

Shercom Industries' Curb Ramp product has been promoted by the City of Saskatoon for a number of years as an acceptable method of improving the transition between the road and sidewalk at legal crossing areas.

Many modern vehicles, particularly cars, have trouble mounting steep rolled curbs that were constructed in the 1960's and 1970's. Curbs constructed in that era were designed for cars, which were much larger than the average car on the road today. In addition, climates that subject subgrades to freeze/thaw cycles can result in movement in all sidewalks, which can cause the curbs to become steeper than originally designed.

As a result many homeowners construct asphalt or concrete ramps to ease the transition between the road and sidewalk. These permanent ramps are illegal and can be removed at the homeowner's cost when City Bylaws are enforced.

The Curb Ramps offered by Shercom Industries are common in Saskatoon. They are removable and allow water to flow through them. In rolled curb areas, the City of Saskatoon promotes the use of these removable ramps as an acceptable compromise between the prohibition in the Bylaw and the practical matter of people getting into their driveway without damaging their vehicles. We do not promote or condone their use in areas where there is no legal crossing (i.e. vertical curb), but to my knowledge the Shercom product has never been used in this application in the City of Saskatoon.

I have no reason to believe that our policies will ever be changed in such a way that use of these types of ramps will be discouraged. The cost of sidewalk replacement is simply too high. I believe that the City of Saskatoon will continue to not only allow but also promote ramps of this style for many years.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeff Jorgenson'.

Jeff Jorgenson, P. Eng.
Roadways Section Manager
JJ:mst