City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

MEMORANDUM TO INDUSTRY NO. 05-08

DATE: SEPTEMBER 15, 2008

TO: DEVELOPERS, CONTRACTORS, ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS & SURVEYORS

FROM: EMILY A. BAKER, P.E., DEPUTY DIRECTOR/ENGINEERING TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

SUBJECT: STANDARDS FOR BRICK SIDEWALKS IN NEW DEVELOPMENTS

Effective immediately, the City of Alexandria will require all brick sidewalks in new developments to be installed in a "running-bond" pattern. Diagonal "herringbone" and "basket-weave" patterns are no longer acceptable. The running bond shall be laid parallel to the street on a concrete or asphalt base as depicted on the approved construction drawings.

Pavers at all driveway approaches shall be mortar set with a 3/8 inch joint on a concrete base so that vehicle traffic will not displace the pavers. These bricks shall be set perpendicular to the street because this is a slightly stronger bond and will resist the movement of rotating tires.

A stack bond header course shall be utilized at the back of curbs and around tree wells and/or planters. All tree wells without tree grates shall be surrounded by galvanized metal angles so that the bricks are not displaced. These changes will greatly reduce long-term maintenance required by the City.

The City typically stocks Old Virginia #24 (full range) bricks manufactured by Old Virginia Brick Company (www.oldvirginiabrick.com/brick/wmp_col_full_rng.html). The City also allows Calvert #237 (in Old Town), red pavers, Old Sanible Range and King William Brick. Please contact the Construction & Inspection Division at (703)519-6584 for other allowable brick types or to have products included in the list of acceptable brick.

This policy includes projects that are released and/or currently under construction. If you should have any questions, please contact Lucky Stokes, Chief, Construction & Inspection Division at (703) 519-6585.