
Chapter 12

Back-of-Sidewalk Profiles

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12.1 General

Back-of-sidewalk profiles are used to establish the profile grade and therefore play an important role in plan preparation, especially if the project site is located in a built-up urban area. Profiles help ensure the constructability of the project within the right of way without excessive disturbance or rework of adjoining properties. Back-of-sidewalk profiles are also used for checking of stormwater trapped behind the sidewalks and as a major input for establishing centerline grade profiles.

Grades shown on this sheet are at the back of the proposed sidewalk, and grades shown on roadway plan-profile sheets are at the profile grade line (PGL) denoted on the typical section.

The inclusion of the back-of-sidewalk profiles in the plans set is optional - at the discretion of the district. Work sheets may be required with phase reviews.

12.2 Sheet Setup

Back-of-sidewalk profiles shall be prepared on standard cross section format. For simple projects which do not involve many cross streets or driveways, the sheet may be divided horizontally to maximize usage. Stationing shall progress from left to right and multiple profile views shall be stacked from top to bottom. Match lines shall be stationed. Care should be taken to preserve clarity and legibility.

12.3 Required Information

Profiles for use in establishing back-of-sidewalk grades consist of existing profiles along the back edge of each proposed sidewalk. The existing profiles shall be shown so as to distinguish between the profiles for the right and left sidewalk, and in accordance with the ***FDOT CADD Production Criteria Handbook***.

The standard scales are 1" = 100' horizontally and 1" = 5' vertically. This combination works well for projects having few locations where back-of-sidewalk grades would be critical. It may be advantageous to use a vertical scale of 1" = 2' and a horizontal scale of 1" = 50' for projects located in business and commercial areas, or where greater clarity is required. Elevation datum shall be shown on both sides of the sheet, with station numbers below the profile.

Limits of existing pavement, such as parking areas and drives, which should be matched as closely as possible, shall be identified on all sidewalk profiles. The centerline for each intersecting street and driveway shall be indicated with a vertical line at the proper station and the street name and station noted. Intersecting streets and driveways on the right shall be shown below the profile, and those on the left above the profile.

At each station, as well as locations of significant drainage, arrows shall be drawn to indicate the slope of ground at the outer edges of the sidewalk.

Drainage arrows shall be placed below the profile line for the right profile and above the profile line for the left profile. Arrows pointing outwards from the profile indicate drainage away from the project, while arrows pointing inwards indicate drainage to the project.

Floor elevations for buildings shall be indicated by a horizontal line drawn at the floor elevation between the building limits. The numeric elevation shall be shown, as well as the offset (distance and side) from centerline of project to the face of the building. Entrances to buildings, elevations of top of existing major utilities (as defined in ***Chapter 5 of Volume 1***), and water table elevation may be shown when appropriate.

Once the proposed back-of-sidewalk profile has been developed, percents of grade, PI stations and elevations shall be shown. Vertical curves, if any, shall be dimensioned. Elevations along vertical curves are not required. Stations for begin and end project, exceptions, and back-of-sidewalk special profiles shall be flagged and labeled. Mainline station equations within the limits of the sidewalk profile shall also be flagged and labeled.

The difference in elevation between the profile grade and back-of-sidewalk profile grade shall be noted on the sheet. Superelevation notes, if applicable, shall also be noted on the sheet.