CITY OF COLUMBIA, MISSOURI

Disabilities Commission

September 13, 2022

Re: Sidewalk closure for construction at Tenth and Broadway, and protected pedestrian pathways

Dear Mayor and Members of City Council:

This letter is written on behalf of the Columbia Disabilities Commission and is regarding the sidewalk closure at the corner of Tenth and Broadway in downtown during demolition and construction at the site.

The Disabilities Commission requests City Council and City staff to require contractors provide a protected pedestrian pathway on that corner for the entirety of the upcoming construction.

Broadway and Tenth Street is one of the busiest pedestrian walkways in the City and the Commission believes closure of this sidewalk presents a safety concern for all pedestrians, particularly for pedestrians who are blind or have low vision and for pedestrians who use wheelchairs or other mobility devices.

It's the Commission's understanding that contractors currently have discretion of whether to close a sidewalk completely and pay a public inconvenience fee, or to keep it open with the protected pedestrian pathways. Given its location, the expected duration of the construction and the impact it has on downtown accessibility, the Disabilities Commission asks the sidewalks to remain open with a protected pedestrian pathway for the entirety of construction.

We believe this letter is within the Commission's purpose to consider the concerns of residents with disabilities and advise City Council as necessary.

Sincerely,

Columbia Disabilities Commission

City Hall ◆ 701 E. Broadway, 2nd Floor ◆ P. O. Box 6015 ◆ Columbia, Missouri 65205-6015
Phone: (573) 817-5024 ◆ Fax: (573) 442-8828 ◆ E-Mail: DisabilityServices@CoMO.gov
Web Page: www.CoMO.gov