

SIDEWALK, CURB AND DRIVEWAY APRON POLICY

In the winter or spring of each year, city staff will inspect sidewalks (including service/carriage walks), curb, and driveway aprons in a specific area of the city for that year's Sidewalk, Curb, and Driveway Apron Program. The purpose of the program is to maintain structures in the public rights-of-way in a good and safe condition. The portions of concrete that need to be repaired or replaced will be appropriately marked, typically with paint.

The program will generally be operated on a rotating basis throughout the city from year to year, cycling through each area of the city about once every 4 to 5 years. The city's policy is to repair or replace sidewalks, curb, and driveway aprons that are damaged, deteriorated or holding water at the time of inspection, and not to anticipate damage, deterioration or water-ponding problems in the future. The City Manager shall establish appropriate standards for determining the level of damage or deterioration necessary to warrant repair or replacement. Also, it is the city's policy to replace sidewalk panels where a trip hazard exists. The standard for a sidewalk trip hazard shall be an elevation difference of $\frac{3}{4}$ " or more, typically at the location of a crack or panel joint. "Ramping" by placing concrete, mortar, or any other material on sidewalks to eliminate the trip hazard shall not be permitted, although property owners may be permitted to grind elevated sidewalks to remove the trip hazard provided that the grinding does not damage the sidewalk. Replacement will typically be done on a per-panel basis, although patching may be permitted in certain circumstances, subject to inspection and approval by the Public Works Department.

The city will pay all costs for replacement of curbs and driveway aprons. Also, the city will pay all costs for sidewalk ramps at street intersections. Property owners will be responsible for costs on all work associated with sidewalks on their frontage except: 1) the cost for sidewalk work on side yard frontages for corner properties; and 2) the cost for the sidewalk on the side yard frontage in connection with new sidewalk installations where a sidewalk has never existed.

Residents planning to repair or replace sidewalk panels themselves must secure permits from the city and complete the work within the period of time specified by the city. If residents hire a contractor to do the work, the contractor must obtain the necessary permit(s), be licensed and bonded to work in the public rights-of-way, and must complete the work within the period of time specified by the city. Residents who choose not to do the work themselves or hire their own contractor will automatically be placed in the city's program and will be billed for the work. If the invoice is not timely paid, it will be certified to the Montgomery County Auditor for collection via statutory assessment procedures.

Adopted on January 9, 2023.