

## Sidewalk Program

The City of Kansas City, MO

Question No. 1 on the April ballot called for approval of the issuance of \$600 million in bonds to repair streets, bridges and sidewalks. One of the major selling points for residents was the promise to create a city-funded sidewalk repair program that would eliminate homeowner assessments. To that end, some \$150 million is being dedicated to sidewalks.

#### **FAQs**

### What are the basic components of the GO KC sidewalk program?



 The bond passage allocated \$7.5 million each year for sidewalk repairs for 20 yrs., or until bond funds are exhausted

- All sidewalks will be inspected on a 10 yr. cycle.
  Some bond funds will be used for field design/evaluation to accelerate the 10 yr. cycle
- All pre-existing assessments not residing in the courts were forgiven
- Curbs will be evaluated at the time of sidewalk inspection based on functionality
- Public Works will continue to confer with Parks and Recreation to determine the health and condition of existing trees, and options will be considered before trees are removed
- Citizens can still repair the sidewalk by obtaining a minor infrastructure permit from City Planning and Development (816-513-1500)
- Development and redevelopment related sidewalk requirements are not changed
- Capital Projects undertaken by the City will include sidewalk construction/repair in the project costs
- With the passage of the bond issuance, Council worked with and approved a *Demand Analysis* Matrix that identifies priority sidewalk inspections

### What is the backlog of 311 sidewalk cases that is being addressed by the GO Bonds?

The backlog list includes 311 cases on our citywide wait list up to January 1, 2017. This included (1,471) 311 case locations that Public Works received from 2008 to the end of 2016.

311 cases received on or after January 1, 2017 will be included in citywide inspections using the *Sidewalk Demand Analysis*. Therefore, 311 calls made after January 1, 2017 may not receive immediate inspection, but are assigned inspection based on prioritization identified in the *Demand Analysis*.

The initial priority use of GO Bond funds is to address spot repair locations in the backlog. We anticipate completing the backlog repair in 2022.

#### How is the backlog being addressed?

The citywide wait list has been divided into four areas that align with the current inventory, demand analysis, and 311 requests:

- North of the Missouri River 232 locations
- Missouri River to 39<sup>th</sup> Street- 502 locations
- 39<sup>th</sup> Street to 85<sup>th</sup> Street- 653 locations
- 85<sup>th</sup> Street south- 84 locations
- View the sidewalk repair map to track our progress at kcmo.gov/sidewalks

#### Can I still report my repairs to 311?

The new inspection process will streamline identification of needed repairs and take the burden off of property owners. However, citizens can still report repair needs through 311. The requests will be noted by the sidewalk inspection group and included in the City's systematic citywide inspection process. Thus, a 311 request may not generate an immediate inspection or repair.



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# How will my sidewalk be repaired if it is not part of the 311 backlog?

#### **Systematic Sidewalk Repair Program:**

The program created priority lists for inspection based on a data-driven points system. These criteria were developed through meetings with Councilman Scott Wagner's sidewalk working group, other stakeholder groups and through research of other municipalities that implemented a similar process. The inspection plan assigned points based on proximity to locations and other household factors, was approved by City Council in August 2017.

#### **Systematic Inspection Prioritization Point System:**

Schools (8 points)

Libraries (8 points)

Community Centers (8 points)

Hospitals and Safety Net Providers (8 points)

Median Household Income (3, 5, 8 points)

Transit Stops (3, 5, 8 points)

Parks (5 points)

Grocery Stores/Markets (5 points)

Arterial Streets (5 points)

Vehicle Access (3, 4, 5 points)

Population Density (1-5 points)

Employment Density (1-3 points)

Transportation Terminals (1 point)

You can view a map of this prioritization data and backlog spot repair locations at kcmo.gov/sidewalks



## Citywide Design Inspections

Design inspections started in summer 2019 to inventory existing sidewalk conditions across the entire city. These design inspections are conducted based on the Sidewalk Demand



Analysis and prioritization point system, starting with priority areas 1, 2, and 3.

After inspections are collected for all five priority areas, this condition data will inform sidewalk repair in the future once the backlog of sidewalk repair is completed—anticipated in 2022.

# What if there are no sidewalks in front of my property?

If considered a priority area where sidewalks do not currently exist, projects could be funded at 50% with a 50% match from other funds such as: PIAC, adjacent property owners, grants, other government funding districts as approved by council. New sidewalks in newly developed areas will continue to be required under the City's development code. The new sidewalk program will not impact that requirement.

For more information on the GO KC Sidewalk Program visit: kcmo.gov/sidewalks

