

# GOkc Sidewalk Follow-Up

## Audit Scope Statement – January 3, 2022

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### Background

The GOkc Sidewalk Program is funded by a voter-approved tax increase. Voters approved the tax increase in April 2017 for improvements and repair of the city's infrastructure. The program is designed to evaluate, repair, and replace residential sidewalks; install Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant ramps; and evaluate and replace curbs. The city plans to fund the program at a minimum of \$150 million over 20 years, about \$7.5 million per year.

The Public Works Department reports completing repairs to about 77% (270 of 352 blocks) of the backlog of sidewalk complaints received prior to the passage of the tax increase. They plan to finish repairing the backlog of sidewalk complaints by 2025. The department is also completing inspections of all remaining city sidewalk conditions and aims to release a strategic repair plan soon.

### Why conduct a follow-up audit to the GOkc Sidewalk Repair Program?

Our [2019 GOkc Sidewalk Repair Program](#) audit identified gaps in the process to inspect sidewalks and enforce contract provisions. These provisions are meant to improve the quality and useful life of neighborhood sidewalks. Confirming the implementation of our audit's recommendations helps ensure the program uses city funds efficiently and effectively.

During the original audit, Public Works' management and inspectors identified warranty inspections as an important contractual element to hold contractors accountable for sidewalk quality. At the time of our first audit, no warranties were near expiration. A follow-up audit allows us to evaluate the effectiveness of this important program element.

### Audit objective

Our objective is to answer the following question:

- Did Public Works improve inspection practices and observable outcomes of the GOkc Sidewalk Repair Program since our 2019 audit?

### Audit methods

We will review updated city specifications for sidewalk construction and determine whether these have been incorporated into contractual requirements; interview inspectors to determine changes made to inspection process; evaluate the process for enforcing city sidewalk warranties; and visually inspect a sample of completed sidewalks to determine if current specifications are enforced and identify whether warranties should be exercised.

### Anticipated release date

We plan to issue the audit report in April 2022.

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#### Office of the City Auditor, Kansas City, Missouri

Douglas Jones, CGAP, CIA, CRMA – City Auditor

21<sup>st</sup> Floor, City Hall, 414 E 12<sup>th</sup> St.  
Kansas City, MO 64106

816-513-3300  
[cityauditor@kcmo.org](mailto:cityauditor@kcmo.org)

 @KCMOCityAuditor  
[kcmo.gov/cityauditor](https://kcmo.gov/cityauditor)