



Public Works Agenda Item

Meeting Date:	July 11, 2023
Agenda Item:	4a. Sidewalk Replacement Program
Staff Contact (name, email, phone):	Brad Marquardt, bmarguardt@whitewater-wi.gov , 262-473-0139

BACKGROUND

(Enter the who, what when, where, why)

Aldersperson Gerber asked for a review of the sidewalk repair program. Attached is a portion of Chapter 12.22 which relates to sidewalk repair and replacement. According to the Chapter, the building inspector is the designated sidewalk administrator. Sidewalks are to be reviewed annually in one of the City's wards on a rotating basis. According to the ordinance, the property owner is responsible for the cost of repair or replacement.

The last records of the sidewalk replacement program I have found are from 2009, which was administered by the Neighborhood Services Director. These records indicate the property owners were only responsible for paying 25% of the sidewalk repair/replacement. This may have been in response to a Special Assessment Resolution from 1996 where the Special Assessment Policy was updated. The 1996 Special Assessment Policy was again updated in 2015 where Council approved not assessing at all for sidewalk, among other things.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS – COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

(Dates, committees, action taken)

N/A

FINANCIAL IMPACT

(If none, state N/A)

Fund 280, Street Repairs, typically has \$20,000 budgeted for annual sidewalk repair. Staff has been using this money for miscellaneous sidewalk repairs that need attention and typically completed by city staff.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff would like to get back into a true sidewalk replacement program. The thought would be to add the work onto our biannual street construction projects. Two wards would be included, with the emphasis of including the wards near where the street construction work is happening if possible. Since street construction is anticipated for 2024, only one ward will be looked at for inclusion next year. I would suggest Ward 4 which is bounded by Fremont Street, Main Street, Prairie Street and the Walworth County line. Fremont Street from Starin Road to Lauderdale is a proposed street construction project.

Additionally, the ordinance should be updated to reflect past and proposed changes.

ATTACHMENT(S) INCLUDED

(If none, state N/A)

1. Chapter 12.22 Sidewalk
