

Q How are disturbed areas restored?

A Restoration begins as soon as possible after new sidewalks have been poured. Contractors are required to use high quality topsoil and seed. You can assist with the restoration by watering the ground lightly every day until the grass has been mowed once or twice. Then water more heavily and less frequently.

Q The Contractor used weed seeds!

A Actually, annual weed seeds lie dormant in the soil for years. The seeds that were lying dormant at one location have now been redistributed over a new area and have germinated. As weeds grow faster than grass, it is important to care for the area early on. For more information, see the *Care and Restoration of Disturbed Turf Areas* brochure posted on the Engineering website under General Information.

Q What are the contractor's work hours?

A Normal hours are 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday with occasional work on Saturday. Barricades and "No Parking" signs with approximate starting date will be placed 48 hours in advance of construction. Your cooperation and compliance with the "No Parking" restrictions will speed up the work and may save you a ticket and towing costs. Please call the Sidewalk Program at 266-4537 with any additional questions.

City of Madison

Engineering Division
Sidewalk Program
1602 Emil St.
Madison, WI 53713

Phone: (608) 266-4088 (general) / 266-4537 (supervisor)
www.cityofmadison.com/engineering/sidewalk/repair.htm

City of Madison

SIDEWALK
REPAIR &
REHABILITATION
PROGRAM

Providing better sidewalks for pedestrians



(608) 266-4088

Dear Property Owner:

The Annual Sidewalk Repair and Rehabilitation Program includes your area this year. This program is designed to bring defective sidewalks up to current standards. **It does not mean all sidewalks will be replaced.**

FAQs

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Q Why is the City replacing my sidewalk?

A Everybody benefits from safe sidewalks.

Reduced injuries from people tripping and falling result in fewer claims against property owners and the City. They also increase property values and enhance the quality of life we all enjoy.

Q What is the criteria for replacement?

A Broken, offset or settled sidewalks are considered for replacement. Specific criteria for Replacement of Public Sidewalk and Curb and Gutter are posted on the City of Madison website: http://www.cityofmadison.com/engineering/sidewalk_repair.htm.

Q How do I know what will be replaced?

A City Sidewalk inspectors use white paint to mark an "X" on damaged sections. Arrows and dashes indicate multiple sections for removal. The final decision on a slab's removal is determined at the time of construction when ends and sides are exposed.

Q Who does the work, who pays, how much will it cost?

A Two options exist.

Option One: You may elect to replace the marked sidewalk by hiring a contractor licensed by the Board of Public Works. **But you will pay 100% of the contractor's services directly to them.** Please inform the Sidewalk Office, 266-4537, of your decision to retain a contractor within 20 days of the date of the attached notice. Any work performed within the City of Madison right-of-way, which includes sidewalk, requires a permit. Your contractor obtains a permit from City Engineering by calling 266-4088, or by downloading a Street and Terrace Application from the Engineering website.

Option Two: The City awards a contract to the lowest responsible bidder to replace sidewalk. Almost all property owners choose this option. Since the City

administers the work, you do not need to call the Sidewalk Program. **You are responsible for one-half the cost of repairs.** One standard 5' x 5' section of sidewalk is estimated to cost you between \$80-\$90. Additional items such as driveway restoration cost extra and will be assessed accordingly.

Q Under Option Two, how is work billed?

A You will receive a "Special Assessment"

in the mail about six weeks after work is complete. This bill is not part of your annual property tax assessment. You may pay the bill in full before October 31 without interest. Or, you may use the City's five year installment plan. For more information about special assessments and payment options including deferrals, contact the Comptroller's Office, 266-4008.

Q What if I have objects in the right of way?

A If you have objects such as retaining walls, invisible fence, plantings, sprinkler system or pavers within twelve inches of either side of the sidewalk without a permit the objects may be subject to removal and/or repair at the property owner's expense. Marking these objects may reduce the risk of contractor damage.