

Sidewalk Replacement Program *Frequently Asked Questions*

Q. Can I request a certain date for the replacement of the sidewalk in front of my house?

A: The contractor makes a natural progression through the city removing and replacing sidewalk. Since there are approximately 300 locations that need sidewalk work, it is impossible for the contractor to schedule locations for certain dates.

Q. How long will it take to complete the project from beginning to end?

A: The contract allows for construction to occur from May 1 to July 16. The contractor can start later than May 1, however the project must be completed by July 16.

Q. What are the steps involved to replace the sidewalk?

A: The contractor generally works with various crews. The progression of construction is generally:

1. The first crew removes all marked sidewalk and curb and places barricades highlighting that construction will take place.
2. A second crew installs wood framing for the sidewalk and curb.
3. A third crew will then pour the concrete for the curb and/or sidewalk. This crew will also mold the curb and/or sidewalk to its final shape.
4. After two to three days a fourth crew will then remove the forms from the concrete and take away the barricades.
5. A fifth crew performs all concrete repairs to driveway where damage has occurred. Sometimes removal is done without causing any damage to driveway.
6. At the same time as the fifth crew a sixth crew will repair all damaged asphalt driveways. Sometimes removal is done without causing any damage to driveway.
7. At the time of the driveway repair, a landscaping crew will place topsoil and seed to all damaged parkway areas.
8. If certain aspects do not pass inspection the contractor shall come back to correct the work.

Q. How long will the new sidewalk last before it needs to be replaced again?

A: Sidewalk generally lasts 30 to 40 years. However tree roots, poorly backfilled utilities, and other issues to the sub-base supporting the sidewalk can shorten that life span. These instances are result of the situation and not poor construction.

Q. Will the city keep me informed of the progress of the project?

A: If you contact the city and give us your address we will be able to give you approximate times and dates of when to expect construction. The contractor's schedule changes due to unforeseen circumstances (weather, available manpower, etc.) but the schedule should not change more than a few days.

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Q. How does the city determine its contractor for the project?

A: The city advertises its program to concrete contractors in the area. Interested contractors are given a map showing all the locations, an estimate of quantities for the project and specifications for construction work. Then all of the qualified bidders submit sealed bids with the lowest bid being sent to council for approval.

Q. Does the city oversee the construction work done by the contractor?

A: The city has its own inspectors monitor construction. The inspector ensures that construction is being performed according to the contract specifications. The specifications for the project are equal to or better than industry wide accepted standards used throughout the country.

Q. How many sidewalks does the city replace each year?

A: Through two programs the city replaces anywhere from 100,000 square feet to 140,000 square feet of sidewalk each year. This is equivalent to 3.8 to 5.3 miles of sidewalk.

Q. Why doesn't the city replace my entire driveway apron instead of patching it?

A: If construction occurs to the sidewalk or curb through your driveway the city may need to patch driveway adjacent to those areas. The driveway apron is the responsibility of the property owner to maintain, therefore the city will only replace areas large enough to repair the damage caused by the construction.

Q. Why doesn't the city replace the entire curb in front of my driveway?

A: The city will only replace curb that has been deemed defective. Sometimes, only half the curb through a driveway is defective so that portion is replaced.

Q. What if I moving prior to the work being completed?

A: The city will be sending a bill to the owner who received the estimate letter. It is the owner's responsibility at the time of estimate to disclose the future billing to the new home owner. If the information is not disclosed than the previous homeowner will be responsible for the bill. Please contact the city at marquezs@naperville.il.us or call 630/305-5203.