

# 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 back log of 311 sidewalk cases that is being addressed by the GO Bonds?

Citizens request various city services, including requests for sidewalk repair, through the City 311 Action Center. 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 future citywide inspections using the *Sidewalk Demand Analysis* as the basis for inspection. 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.

### 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

The Missouri River to 39<sup>th</sup> Street area, and the 39<sup>th</sup> Street to 85<sup>th</sup> Street area, are the areas that had the oldest 311 cases that had not been included in recent years' citywide sidewalk repair projects. Sidewalk spot repair projects for these two areas began in spring 2018.



# Sidewalk Program

The City of Kansas City, MO

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

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

The systematic inspection will create 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 and other stakeholder groups, and through research of other municipalities that implemented a similar process. The following inspection prioritization plan, assigning 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





## 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 it will be included in the City's systematic citywide inspection process. Thus, a 311 request may not generate an immediate inspection or repair.

## 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.

Find more information on the GO KC Sidewalk Program at kcmo.gov/sidewalks

