

2010 Sidewalk Program

The City of Oconomowoc is performing its annual sidewalk inspection throughout the entire City. This program assesses the overall condition of residential, commercial and City owned sidewalks. As a property owner you are responsible for the sidewalk abutting your property, including the maintenance and cost of repairs unless damage is caused by city maintained trees. Sidewalk maintenance is important to your property value as well as a safety measure for you and those that use it.

There may be some general questions you might have, such as:

WHAT IS THE INSPECTOR LOOKING FOR?

They are looking for defected sidewalk that may consist of one or more of the following: badly cracked, pieces broken out, and raised or sunk sidewalk squares. Sidewalk squares that meet the city specifications for replacement are marked with a green "X".

CAN I REPAIR THE UNSAFE SIDEWALK MYSELF?

Yes, according to the city's specifications. At any time you observe a deficiency with the sidewalk you can repair it, not just when you are mailed a repair notice. If you receive a repair notice and what to fix it yourself you need to notify our office by completing the Notice of Owner's Intent form and return it to us or emailing your intent to kwirth@oconomowoc-wi.gov.

DO I NEED A PERMIT TO DO THIS WORK?

No permit is required if you do the repair work yourself or if you contract the work out. When the work is completed, the property owner will contact the Engineering Department to get a final inspection on the repair at 262-569-3232.

WHY CAN'T I JUST HAVE IT PATCHED?

You can in some instances, the City is interested primarily in safe sidewalks. It is possible to patch sidewalk squares that are slightly defective, such as holes or broken corners. However, patches may deteriorate quickly requiring further maintenance and additional expense as well as presenting a poor appearance. For these reasons, the City employed contractor will replace entire sections.

ARE THERE ADVANTAGES TO GETTING MY OWN CONTRACTOR?

In certain cases you might get a better price, especially if you know of a contractor who works in your neighborhood. The City contract price for last year's program (2009) was **\$4.30/sq.ft.** for a sidewalk slab and **\$4.80/sq.ft.** for a driveway slab plus \$.40 for sidewalk expansion felt if needed. If a tree root was involved in the work, an additional **\$25.00/slab** was included.

If you have any questions, please call the City of Oconomowoc Department of Public Works at 262-569-3243.