ORD-0555
Repair of Defective Sidewalks

The current language in the City's ordinance as it pertains to Sidewalk reconstruction and repair places the responsibility on the property owner. The past and current practice in City operations however has been to repair or reconstruct sidewalks as necessary.

The purpose of this discussion is to review the current ordinance and current practice as well as to discuss proposed changes to the ordinance and to receive feedback and direction from Council.

Other Cities

- Round Rock – City maintains sidewalks.

- Cedar Park – City maintains sidewalks

- Hutto – City maintains sidewalks

- Carrollton – City maintains sidewalk and has a cost share program option

Proposed Changes

When a sidewalk, driveway, curb, gutter or appurtenance becomes defective, unsafe or hazardous, it shall be the duty of the owner of the abutting property to reconstruct or repair same ~~and the expense of such work shall be borne by the abutting property owner~~ **however the City is not prohibited from making repairs when deemed necessary.** When a sidewalk, driveway, curb, gutter, or appurtenance is found to be defective, unsafe or hazardous, the City Engineer, or his/her designee, ~~shall~~ **may** notify the owner of the abutting property to reconstruct or repair same. A permit may be required to make the repairs pursuant to Chapter 96 Right-of-Way Management of the Code of Ordinances. Any owner who fails to reconstruct or repair such defective, unsafe or hazardous condition within 30 days from the date of the written notice from the City Engineer, or his/her designee, to do so shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

(Ord. 24-69-4-21, passed 4-21-69; Ord. 1452-20-07-28, passed 7-28-20)

Discussion Points

- Current ordinance places sidewalk maintenance or replacement on property owner.

- Current and past practice has been that the City has annually budgeted for contracted sidewalk repair which has been utilized for such work.

- Proposing to change language of ordinance to reflect current operations.

Questions/Comments