Draft Sidewalk Installation Policy

Submitted to Mayor By Denise Duranczyk on July 6, 2020

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SIDEWALK INSTALLATION POLICY

I POLICY STATEMENT

The long-term goal of the City of Stoughton is to install and maintain sidewalks to promote a walkable and safe environment for its citizens while using our limited resourses prudently. This policy prioritizes the installation of new sidewalks consistent with the city's Comprehensive Land Use Plan. "The City should require sidewalks on both sides of all existing and proposed collector streets, and on both sides of key routes to schools, parks, and other community facitlities with heavy foot traffic." (2017 plan p. 108)

II ORDINANCE REGULATIONS

A. Ord 10-2(a)(6)(c) Requires sidewalks to be installed on vacant lots at the time of development prior to occupancy of the building.

B. Ord 66-95 Requires all new subdivisions to have new sidewalks installed on both sides of every street including new subdivisions.

III POLICY

A. Both sides of all collector traffic level streets within the City limits.

B. Both sides of identified key routes to schools within the City limits.

C. Both sides of identified key routes to City parks.

D. Both sides of routes with identified heavy foot traffic such as the downtown area.

E. The determination of sidewalk placement when doing retrofitting/in-fill on local streets in established neighborhoods will use the criteria listed below. This list is not meant to be all inclusive but to help the committee and council be more transparent in their deliberations. When possible a cost/benefit analysis should be included in the final recommendations.

1) The level of vehicular and pedestrian traffic for the street where installation is recommended.

2) Environmental concerns, including the loss of mature trees, gardens and green space along with the effect of replacing permeable surfaces with impermeable surfaces including, but not limited to, the increase in surface water runoff.

3) Any physical characteristics which would substantially increase the cost of the installation such as the need for retaining walls, the loss of mature trees and adjacent property lot sizes and structures.

4) Budgetary concerns including any factors that increase the cost of the sidewalk installation, the cost to the City of borrowing funds to complete the sidewalk installation and the cost's impact on the City's budget.

5) The Committee and Council should also consider the unique characteristics of the neighborhood and how the installation of sidewalks may negatively impact the property value(s) of homes. Their should also concern the wishes of the property owners and neighborhood as articulated at public hearings or via written submissions.

Any recommendation for the installation of sidewalks under this section shall be submitted to the Council in writing to include the required analysis as set forth in this section.

The City Council shall consider each factor in its deliberations and determinations regarding the installation of sidewalks pursuant to this section of the policy.

F. A.-E. is the order of priorities that should be used when doing in-fill or when streets undergo major reconstruction (i.e., curb and gutter). Before adding a second sidewalk under E. there needs to be sidewalks on both sides of ALL the streets in A.-D. except when physical barriers present major challenges

G. Small sections of local level streets that may be needed to connect existion sections of sidewalks where pedestrian safety needs be improved or pedestrian volumes are significant.

H. Repairs to existing sidewalks will continue with our replacemnt program based on annual funding.

I. The City Council will limit the cost to property owners for infrastructure improvements to $12,000 per project.

IV COLLECTOR STREETS

North-South collector streets (as defined in Comp Plan) includes: Academy Street, Division Street, Fourth Street, King Street, Kingslynn Road, Lincoln Avenue, Page Street, Van Buren Street. East-West collector streets: Academy Street, Forton Street, Jackson Street, Jefferson Street, Miwaukee Street, Roby Road, South Street, Wilson Street.