

Sidewalks Infill Accelerated Implementation Program – February 2021 Follow Up

ISSUE

This report provides a map of the known missing sidewalk locations in Saskatoon.

BACKGROUND

The Standing Policy Committee on Transportation, at its meeting held on September 8, 2020, considered a report outlining a prioritized list of sidewalk infill projects totalling \$20,000,000, and resolved:

1. That the Administration report back with the full list of known missing sidewalks; and
2. That the Administration indicate that the infill sidewalk priority ranking is subject to change.”

CURRENT STATUS

The Sidewalk Infill Program continues to review and prioritize known missing sidewalk locations. At this time, there are approximately 388 kilometres of known missing sidewalk.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

A written list of 388 kilometres of missing sidewalk would require significant resources to prepare, result in a lengthy document, and would not be easy to use for residents. A graphical representation of missing sidewalk was deemed a more friendly way to provide people the information.

Appendix 1 is a map showing the known missing sidewalk locations in Saskatoon. The missing sidewalks have been given a priority ranking from 1 to 5, with 1 being highest priority and 5 being lowest priority. Due to limitations within the available Geographic Information System (GIS) data model, streets that do not have curb are not prioritized at this time. The Administration is working toward a resolution for this limitation. However, these locations are illustrated on the map and the lengths of all known missing sidewalks are captured below.

Priority 1	1 km
Priority 2	13 km
Priority 3	103 km
Priority 4	217 km
Priority 5	3 km
No Curb	51 km
TOTAL	388 km

The priority ranking criteria will be applied to the database of missing sidewalks annually to capture any potential changes in the land use or street characteristics that may occur.

As such, the priority ranking scores are subject to change.

It is important to note that not all missing sidewalk locations may be feasible for construction. Several factors including available right-of-way, utilities, presence of landscaping and trees, and impacts on property/business owners must be reviewed to determine if sidewalk construction is feasible.

Priority 1, and many of the Priority 2, locations have been reviewed and functional plans prepared. Reviewing the feasibility of construction is still underway for some locations.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

On July 27, 2020, City Council approved \$3,000,000 from the Reallocation Pool for the Sidewalk Infill program.

The Administration has applied to the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program, Green Infrastructure Stream requesting \$5,000,000 for sidewalk infill projects. Confirmation of approval for this funding application has not yet been received. The project has been submitted by the Government of Saskatchewan to Infrastructure Canada for review and the City is awaiting confirmation of next steps.

The Administration maintains the map and list of prioritized sidewalk infill projects and will continue to present sidewalk infill projects in future business plans and budget deliberations and as future funding opportunities arise.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Privacy, legal, social and environmental implications have not been assessed at this time. These implications will be assessed during the individual pre-project planning process.

NEXT STEPS

The Administration will continue to work on refining the missing sidewalk database.

To leverage funding opportunities, the Administration will continue to prioritize sidewalks for implementation, prepare designs for construction, and develop cost estimates.

APPENDICES

1. 2021 Sidewalk Infill Program – Map of Prioritized Missing Sidewalks

Report Approval

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