



CITY COUNCIL REPORT

February 20, 2007

TO: Phillip L. Nelson, City Manager

FROM: Brian Murphy, Assistant City Manager/Economic Development Services
Timothy Richnak, Public Works Director

SUBJECT: Sidewalk Maintenance Program and ADA Requirements

Background:

- This is a follow-up to the January 15, 2007 agenda report on our sidewalk maintenance program.
- Concerns that arose are as follows:
 - It was expressed that upgrading the sidewalk system to meet ADA requirements was not required at this time due to a grandfather clause. ADA requires that anytime a sidewalk system is constructed or altered they must have ramps wherever they intersect with the street. The required replacement program encompassed a two square mile area and is considered an alteration.
 - A concern was made that the City of Troy's action of removing the sidewalk segments created an unsafe condition by forcing pedestrians to walk into the street. On the contrary by removing these segments of sidewalk pedestrians are being directed to a sidewalk ramp that has a corresponding sidewalk ramp on the opposite side of the street and not directing them into the street.
 - A question was asked as to the time frame for replacement and installation of sidewalk ramps where they could be installed. Our sidewalk maintenance programs will startup again in the spring and installations will occur as schedules and weather permits.
 - It was requested that additional notification and communication be added to keep residents informed. We will add ADA requirement to our current notification letters. We will also be notifying and coordinating with the adjacent property owners to facilitate the installation of the new ramps required to accommodate a safe street crossing. Our first priority will be installation locations that will facilitate expansion of the sidewalk system.

Policy Considerations:

- Enhance the livability and safety of the community (Goal I)
- Effectively and professionally communicate internally and externally (Goal IV)

Options:

- This is an informational report only