

Safety of our residents was the primary goal of the 1972 City of Avon Lake sidewalk program. The program established the criteria for property owners in the maintenance of their sidewalks. This reactive program relied on people reporting issues to the Zoning Department.

Today, with safety still the focus, the City has re-energized the program with a new, pro-active approach. The Public Works Department will be walking our streets, inspecting all sidewalks for damage. The goal of the program is to connect all of Avon Lake's streets with safe sidewalks.

The City's wants to work with property owners to make this process as easy as possible. If you have questions or concerns, please call Austin Page, Deputy Zoning and Planning Maintenance Coordinator, at (440) 930-4114 or email him at apage@avonlake.org. For more information, visit www.AvonLake.org.

Thank you for helping us
Connect Our Avon Lake!

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Not sure which Ward you live in? Please visit
www.avonlake.org/city-council/ward-map.

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Connect **OUR** AVON LAKE

The
NEW
Sidewalk
Program

Here's How the Program Works

- 1 The inspector evaluates each property's sidewalk and notes the work that needs to be done. This information is shared with the property owner via mail.
- 2 The property owners have 60 days to decide if they want to take responsibility for the repair(s) themselves or if they want the City to do the repair(s) at the owner's expense.
- 3 If the property owner decides to take responsibility for the repair(s), the repair(s) need to be completed within one year.
- 4 For property owners who want the City to do the work, the City will hire a contractor. The cost is based on the contractor's cost per square foot. The City will then invoice the property owner with a due date of 30 days. If the invoice isn't paid in 30 days, the cost will be placed on the County tax lien. It will include interest, County and City fees, and will be added to the property taxes. Sidewalks that are installed without a permit and/or inspection may be subject to removal.

Inspection Criteria

- 1 Sidewalk is raised 1" or more
- 2 Sidewalk is pushed up 1" or more due to tree roots
- 3 Sidewalk is slumped, creating an uneven edge of 1" or more
- 4 Sidewalk is broken in five pieces or more and is structurally unsound

Property Owner Hires a Contractor

The following criteria must be followed with the repairs:

Replacement

- 1 All replacement work shall conform to City standards under provisions of Chapter 903 and 1343 of the Codified Ordinance.
- 2 Contractors must be registered, bonded, and licensed through the City's Building Department, www.AvonLake.org/Sidewalks.
- 3 The City's Public Works Department must issue a right-of-way (no cost) for the work to be done. Inspections of forms and sub-base must be scheduled prior to placement of concrete and re-inspection of all finished work by calling (440) 930-4101.
- 4 Sidewalks that are installed without a permit and/or inspection may be subject to removal.

Leveling

- 1 Sidewalk blocks may be leveled as long as they are in one whole piece.
- 2 Blocks broken during leveling must be replaced.
- 3 All leveling contractors must be registered, bonded, and licensed through the City's Building Department.
- 4 No building permit is required for leveling; however, a right-of-way permit must be issued (no cost) from the Public Works Department. All sidewalks leveled will be inspected by the Public Works Department (440) 930-4101.

Once the work has been completed, the property owner must contact the Public Works Department at (440) 930-4101 in order to be removed from the Sidewalk Replacement list and not be placed on a County tax lien.

Replacement and leveling, as described above, are the only acceptable methods of sidewalk repair. Patching and ramping with any type of material is NOT acceptable.

A list of frequently asked questions can be found at www.AvonLake.org/Sidewalks.