



**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
CONFERENCE MEETING**

#14-1556

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: Lee R. Feldman, ICMA-CM, City Manager

DATE: January 21, 2015

TITLE: Citywide Sidewalk Inspection and Management System

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an update on the Sidewalk Inspection and Management System following the completion of a Citywide assessment by Atkins North America, Inc. (Atkins) and to outline the costs associated with maintaining sidewalks Citywide.

Background

On January 7, 2014 the City Commission approved Atkins Task Order No. 2 stemming from a Commission approved contract agreement on November 6, 2012 initiating Project 11762A (Sidewalk Inspection and Management System).

On July 1, 2014 Atkins submitted a comprehensive sidewalk assessment plan to the City. The inspection identified 106 miles of sidewalk damage, representing 25 percent of sidewalks Citywide (Exhibit 2). The sidewalk damages were compiled into five major categories (severity levels):

- 1) Large Vertical Displacement ($>1/4"$);
- 2) Wide Cracks ($>1/8"$);
- 3) Small Vertical Displacement ($<1/4"$);
- 4) Surface Defects;
- 5) Narrow Cracks ($< 1/8"$).

Based on the findings and categorization, Atkins has recommended three repair strategies over a five year span for the City to address the deficiencies. The proposed repairs include:

- 1) Full sidewalk panel replacement to the nearest existing expansion joints and installation of new base material (Exhibit 3), discouraging tree root growth where the sidewalk shows damage due to tree roots. It is estimated that these repairs will cost \$2.9 million at \$18 per square foot.
- 2) Full sidewalk panel replacement to the nearest existing expansion joints where

the sidewalk shows damage not caused by tree roots. It is estimated that these repairs will cost \$10.4 million at \$6 per square foot.

- 3) Mechanical grinding down of the sidewalk at joints where the sidewalk damage falls into the small vertical displacement category. It is estimated that these repairs will cost \$2.5 million at \$3 per square foot.

Currently, \$308,000 has been allocated for concrete and paver maintenance in Fiscal Year 2015 and \$2.15 million has been programmed for fiscal year 2019. Funding for fiscal years 2016 through 2019 can now be recommended based on this comprehensive assessment and Commission policy discussion and direction.

Strategic Connections:

This item is a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan initiative*, included in the **Infrastructure Cylinder of Excellence**, specifically advancing:

- Goal 1: Be a pedestrian friendly, multi-modal City.
- Objective 2: Improve transportation land use and planning to create a walkable and bikeable community.

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan: We Are Connected*.

Attachment: Exhibit 1 – Existing City Ordinance
Exhibit 2 – Citywide Map of Damages by Category Levels
Exhibit 3 – Sidewalk Terminology
Exhibit 4 – Presentation

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