



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

#15-1316

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

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

DATE: October 20, 2015

TITLE: City-wide Sidewalk Inspection and Management System
Repair Priority Plan (\$2.1 Million Risk Funding)

Background

On January 7, 2014, the City Commission approved a Task Order with Atkins to inspect, evaluate, document existing conditions, and provide a cost estimate to repair concrete sidewalks within City limits. The sidewalk damage was compiled into five major categories as noted below:

1. C-1, Large vertical displacement, greater than 1/4 - inch
2. C-2, Wide cracks, greater than 1/8 - inch
3. C-3, Small vertical displacement, less than 1/4 - inch
4. C-4, Surface defects (concrete spalling)
5. C-5, Narrow cracks, less than 1/8 - inch

On January 6, 2015, the citywide sidewalk inspection and management system assessment by Atkins was presented to the Commission. At that time, Staff was tasked with bringing back recommendations to the City Commission to address the sidewalk repairs.

Proposed Repair Methodology

The City's current Code of Ordinances states that sidewalks shall be maintained and repaired by the owner of the adjacent/abutting property. Considering the current Code, as well as an estimated cost of over \$16 million to repair all areas identified as damaged, a priority list has been developed to identify the order in which repairs should be carried out using \$2.1 million in risk funds for Fiscal Year 2016.

The first priority will be to address all City owned properties for C-1 through C-4 damage categories. After dealing with City owned properties, all sidewalks damaged by trees planted in swales (i.e. in the City right-of-way) will be addressed for damage categories C-1 and C-2, which are considered the highest risk categories for trip and fall incidents. Finally, with the remaining funding, select repairs will be identified and

addressed for category C-1 and C-2 damages found in high-pedestrian zones like downtown, as well as areas that are adjacent to the main entrance way to schools and hospitals. Damage category C-5 will not be addressed, as cracks that are less than 1/8 of an inch in width are considered cosmetic damage and pose little to no risk to pedestrians.

The proposed repairs will address approximately 14% of the City's damaged sidewalks, with funds being expended as outlined below, and will greatly reduce the City's risk potential for trip and fall claims.

City Owned Property

Damage Category	Number of Locations	Repair Cost
C-1	41	\$ 39,750
C-2	665	\$ 374,280
C-3	325	\$ 87,975
C-4	31	\$ 41,640
Total	1,062	\$ 543,645

Swale-tree Root Damage

Damage Category	Number of Locations	Repair Cost
C-1	228	\$ 783,700
C-2	292	\$ 402,050
Total	520	\$ 1,185,750

Non-City Owned Property

(Downtown Corridor and adjacent to Schools & Hospitals)

Damage Category	No. of Locations	Repair Cost
C-1	66	\$ 79,470
C-2	431	\$ 271,110
Total	497	\$ 350,580

Resource Impact

The City has approximately \$3.4 million budgeted for sidewalk repairs.

Strategic Connections

This item is a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan* initiative, included within 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*.

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