

Frequently Asked Questions about Sidewalks and Driveway Approaches



City of Omaha

Why have I received a notice from the City to repair my sidewalk or driveway?

You have received the enclosed notice because property owners are responsible for the maintenance of unsafe sidewalks and deteriorated driveway approaches that can cause damage to city streets. To view *Sections 26-41 and 26-42 – Sidewalks* and *Section 34-107 – Driveways* of the **Omaha Municipal Code**, go to the City of Omaha's website, <http://www.cityofomaha.org/pw>. Select *Streets and Sidewalks* and then select *Sidewalk & Driveway Approach Repairs, Omaha Municipal Code Sidewalk Repairs or Omaha Municipal Code Driveway Approach Repairs*.

What does the green paint on my sidewalk or driveway signify?

The green paint identifies the parameters of the area that need to be repaired. An "X" signifies one panel replacement. Arrows on two sides mean the area between the arrows is to be repaired.

What options do I have to repair the sidewalk or driveway?

Option 1: You can arrange for your own contractor to do the work or you can do the work yourself.

Option 2: You can have the City's contractor perform the work.

When I have decided which option I prefer, what is my next step?

- If you choose **Option 1**, call 444-5283 and provide the following information on voice mail:
Your full name, the property address and whether you will hire a contractor or whether you will do the work yourself. (***Important: If you choose Option 1, call 444-5220 for an inspection once the sidewalk or driveway has been formed.***)
- If you choose **Option 2**, ***no action*** is required on your part. The City's contractor will perform the work.

What is the typical repair cost if the City's contractor performs the work? How is this price determined?

The estimated cost of repairs or construction is provided in the enclosed certified letter. This estimated cost is determined annually when the City accepts bids and awards a contract to the lowest qualified bidder.

How shall I pay for work performed by the City's contractor? Can I send a check now?

Once the work has been completed, the cost of repairs shall be assessed to the property owner. **After you receive your Statement of Account**, you will have 30 days from the billing date to pay for repairs. If the amount is not paid within thirty (30) days, it will be processed for special assessment with the next sidewalk assessment district.

Why did I receive the Standard Plate?

If you choose to repair or construct the sidewalk yourself or hire a contractor, the Standard Plate provides instructions to complete this work. If the City's contractor will be making the repairs, you may discard the Standard Plate or you may want to compare the Standard Plate with the marked area on your sidewalk or driveway.

How does the City notify a property owner that sidewalk or driveway repairs are needed?

In accordance with the **Omaha Municipal Code**, a certified letter is mailed to property owners regarding the needed repairs. The U.S. Postal Service will make three (3) attempts to deliver the certified letter. If the property owner does not accept the certified letter, it is returned to the City. The City then records that information and proceeds with the necessary repairs or construction.