

To: Public Works Committee

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Submitted in PW Committee  
Council File No: 05-1853  
Item No.: 7  
Deputy: Adam R. Lid

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Re: Sidewalk Repair Proposal, Item #7

The local associations of REALTORS remain OPPOSED to a sidewalk repair at point of sale ordinance as proposed by the 2009-2010 Budget. Point of Sale, at best, would only repair 1-2% of the city's 6,500 miles of sidewalks.

**We request that the Public Works Committee direct staff to explore and analyze alternative proposals to accomplish a greater number of repaired sidewalks annually.**

- **Citywide Mandate for Sidewalk Repair** – Greater Public Safety and Accessibility for sidewalks is a goal that should be addressed citywide. Establishing a citywide repair mandate with a 5-10 compliance period would keep employees working and accelerate the goal of safe sidewalks citywide.
- **Revenue Anticipation Bonds** – As the City's May 2007 report shows, 78% of the residents support a bond measure to fund sidewalk repairs. Revenue Anticipation Bonds would allow the City to collect revenue through assessment to pay the bonds and make repairs. Employees will have sufficient work, funded by the Assessment.
- **Benefit Assessment Districts** – Allow Neighborhood Councils to float the idea of creating Benefit Assessment Districts to raise funds for sidewalks, curbs, street repairs, street trees, lighting, and street furniture. The neighborhoods would determine their own priorities with the knowledge that the City would not be making sidewalk repairs. This proposal would keep employees working on a regular basis and expand to a multi-year program for improvements to the District.
- **Expand 50/50 program** – While the City Council has chosen to discontinue the present 50/50 program, we envision a 50/50 program that would allow Neighborhood Councils to participate in the program with the homeowner. The City employees would perform the repair work, funded by the Neighborhood Council and the homeowner.

We remain committed to these alternatives over a stand-alone point of sale proposal and are committed to working with the Committee to find ways to create safe sidewalks citywide.