

2022 Sidewalk Maintenance Program



Public Works & Utilities Department

June 7, 2022



Background



- The Public Works & Utilities Department oversees an annual program for sidewalk repairs, as provided by Charter Ordinance No. 88.
- Staff continually receive requests to repair uneven and/or broken sidewalk sections that may be considered a trip hazard or safety concern
- The cost of most repairs will be fully reimbursed by the abutting property owner









Analysis



- Upon verification of needed sidewalk repairs, state statute requires that property owners receive a minimum of 30 days for the opportunity to have those repairs made by a licensed contractor
- An annual on-call contractor is hired by the City for repairs not completed by the property owner, which is often the majority – economy of scale for \$1 million in annual repairs generally provides the best cost option for property owners
- The process has been improved over time with the intent to have the City complete repairs as soon as possible, after the initial 30 days.



Financial Considerations



- The Adopted 2022-2031 Capital Improvement Program includes \$1,000,000 in 2022 for the sidewalk maintenance program
- The majority of costs will be offset by direct payment from or special assessment (5 years) to the adjacent property owners
- Staff requests authorization of the full 2022 budget to continue repairs



Recommendation/Action



Approve the budget, adopt the resolution and authorize the necessary signatures



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Hardship Deferral Program



- Program is administered through the Debt Management section of the Finance Department
- Must own and reside at the property
- Property must be in the City limits, less than 2 acres and used for residential purposes.
- **The value of the home can not exceed the average home value in the Wichita MSA (which changes annually)**
- **The applicant's income can not exceed the HUD median very low-income guidelines (which change annually)**
- **We do adjust for family size to benefit older and disabled citizens: anyone over 65 or disabled and head of household counts as three family members; over 65 and/or disabled counts as two family members.**
- Deferrals and not granted for delinquent specials
- The monthly specials must be more than 1% of the applicant's federal income for tax purposes

