

WYOMISSING BOROUGH
SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

The Borough will begin implementing a 50/50 Sidewalk Replacement Program to improve the quality of our public sidewalk system. The program will be based off of a cooperative agreement between homeowner's and the Borough, in which the Borough will contribute half the cost, up to \$1,000, for voluntary repairs made to a public sidewalk, by the homeowner.

HOW IS PARTICIPATION DETERMINED?

Any homeowner that would like to be included in the program should complete the required application. Annual funding is limited and approved on a first come, first serve basis, with priority given to properties that have significant sidewalk damage. After submitting an application, Borough staff will inspect and photograph the sidewalk to determine if it is eligible for participation and to establish a grade for the level of need. At this time, eligibility is limited to single family, owner occupied properties.

WHAT IS THE CRITERIA FOR ELIBILITY?

Sidewalks that are crumbling, creating drainage problems, have cracking exceeding one and one half inch horizontally or vertical displacement of greater than two inches, will all qualify for the program. In some cases, repairs to adjacent sidewalk panels may be necessary to fully correct the problem. Those panels would also be eligible for funding. Sidewalks damaged by Borough planted trees will receive priority funding.

HOW IS THE PROGRAM FUNDED AND THE COST SPLIT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH AND HOMEOWNER?

The Borough will begin setting aside funding for the project as part of the annual budget. Once the Borough has received applications and created a prioritized inventory, the Borough will publically bid the project as a package to obtain the best possible price. The Borough will contribute 50% of the total cost to repair the sidewalk, up to a maximum of \$1,000. Repair costs above 50% or \$2,000 total, would be the homeowner's responsibility. Whenever possible, the Borough will attempt to minimize the cost of repairs by reducing the amount of work recommended. In cases where Borough planted trees are causing severe damage, alternative options will be suggested by the Borough's Tree Department staff.

ARE DRIVEWAYS, CURBS AND APRONS ELIGIBLE FOR THE PROGRAM?

No, at this time these items are not included in the program and are solely the responsibility of the homeowner. If annual street work is being performed that will affect the curb, homeowners along that street will receive letters informing them of the ability to have the Borough include their curb as part of the project bid package, but would still be responsible to repay the Borough at full cost.

HOW WILL UNSAFE SIDEWALKS WHERE THE HOMEOWNER REFUSES TO MAKE REPAIRS BE HANDLED?

During inspections, Borough staff will specifically be looking for sidewalks that pose a significant safety issue and contact the homeowner to notify them of the program. The 50/50 program is entirely voluntary and a homeowner must apply to be considered for eligibility. If a homeowner with severe sidewalk damage is notified and chooses not to apply for the program, the Borough may choose to make temporary repairs as necessary. The homeowner would be responsible for the full cost of the repair.

WHO SHOULD I CONTACT WITH QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PROGRAM?

You may contact the Public Works or Codes Department at Borough Hall at 610-376-7481.