

City of Eugene Sidewalk Program Updates

Eugene City Council
Work Session
June 25, 2025



Agenda

- Background
- Sidewalk Program Updates
 - Current Programs
 - Recent Initiatives
 - Options for Moving Forward
- Discussion



Background



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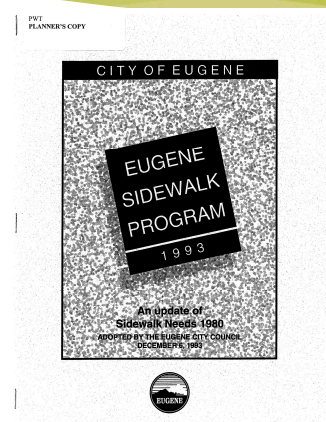
- Safe, clean, and hazard-free sidewalks support mobility, safety, and quality of life
- Sidewalks are essential for the 30 percent of the population who do not or cannot drive
- Sidewalks are a community priority

Background

- **New Sidewalks and Sidewalk Gaps:**
 - Developers are responsible for providing new sidewalks
 - City projects help fill gaps in the network
- **Sidewalk Repairs:**
 - Property owners are responsible for repair and upkeep under city code



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Current Programs



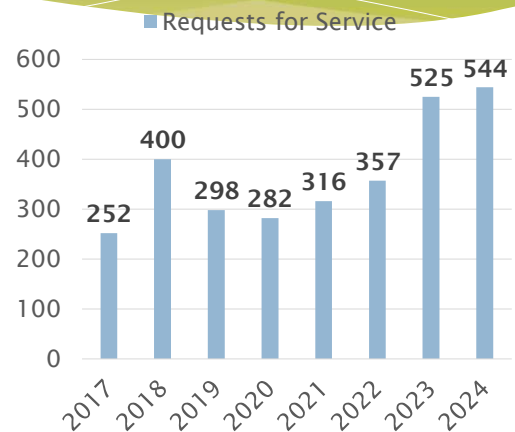
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Sidewalk Repair Program

- PW Maintenance manages the City's inspection and repair program for 700+ miles of sidewalk
- Repairs often involve street tree coordination and Urban Forestry staff time
- Received 544 requests for service last year



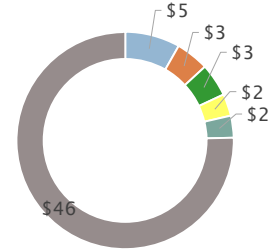
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Sidewalk Capital Projects

- PW Engineering plans for and builds sidewalk infill and ADA Transition Plan projects
- Primarily grant and bond funded
 - 2022 Bond Measure to Fix Streets
 - Safe Routes to School Grants

2022 Bond Funding (\$M)



■ Walking Projects ■ Biking projects
 ■ Safety Projects ■ Grants/Opportunities
 ■ Street Trees ■ Roadway Paving



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15th Ave near Cesar Chavez Elementary



N Danebo near Danebo Elementary



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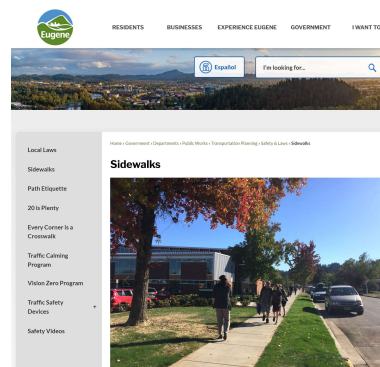
Recent Initiatives



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Public Messaging

- New Transportation Planning Sidewalks Webpage
- Updating PW Maintenance Sidewalk Repair Webpages
- Media/Outreach



Sidewalk Grinding Pilot

- New pilot program launched by PW Maintenance in 2024
- Focusing on right of way locations abutting City of Eugene property
- Pilot goal is to eliminate uneven edges typically from tree roots or expanding/contracting soils
- 247 grinds were completed by the city last year



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Sidewalk Repair Pilot

- New PW Engineering pilot program launched in 2025
- Offering sidewalk repair to property owners at a potentially reduced cost by bundling them into street repair projects
- Starting with 2022 Bond Measure funded paving projects
- Staff will be tracking # of participants, average costs of repairs, staff time, challenges, other lessons learned



May 12, 2025

Owner name
Owner Address
Eugene, Oregon 97404
Taxlot Number:

The City of Eugene Needs Your Help to Ensure That Our Sidewalks Are Safe for All

New Pilot Program for 2025
The City of Eugene is launching a new pilot program to offer sidewalk repairs to property owners at a potentially reduced cost by bundling them into street repair projects.

Typical sidewalk repairs might include grinding for small issues or full panel replacement. Low income and senior homeowners may qualify for a subsidy. In addition to a lower cost, we will handle all of the permitting and street tree coordination for you.

If you think your sidewalk may be in disrepair, contact us for a free sidewalk inspection by calling XXX-XXX-XXXX or emailing XXX@eugene.gov. You are not required to participate in the pilot program regardless of the outcome of the inspection.



Project Specific Information
You are eligible for the new pilot program because your property is adjacent to the upcoming (insert named) Paving Project. This project is going to repave (insert street name and extent). Project construction is planned to last for five months starting in Summer 2025.

Next Steps

- If you think your sidewalk needs repair, please follow these steps:
- Step 1: Contact the City for a free sidewalk inspection by (insert) Eugene's Sidewalk Inspector will visit the site to determine what's needed. An inspection does not mean that you are required to complete repairs and does not change your liability or responsibilities.
 - Step 2: Sign agreement with Public Works to complete repairs.
 - Step 3: Public Works Construction completes repairs during the street repair project.
 - Step 4: You will be billed after services are provided.



More Information
Visit the following webpage to learn more about sidewalks in Eugene and the new pilot program: eugene.gov/pw/2508725
[Project manager name], Project Manager
[phone], [email address]

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Options For Moving Forward



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Scale Up Sidewalk Repair Program

- Scaling up our existing sidewalk repair program would require additional staff and funding
- Scaling up could support resuming proactive inspection and repair in priority areas



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Income-Based Financial Assistance

- Eugene has two types of sidewalk assistance:
 - A small subsidy for low-income property owners who hire the city to do repairs
 - Eugene Code allows for deferral/modification of payments for homeowners who meet age and income criteria
- Pittsburgh is piloting an income-based subsidy and a 5-year interest free payment plan



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Example: Pittsburgh offers a sliding scale discount based on income and is fixing priority sidewalks first

Tree-Related Sidewalk Damage

- City of Eugene pays for tree care during sidewalk repair
- Cities such as San Francisco also pay for entire sidewalk repair resulting from street tree-related damage
- Oregon City offers a grant and Sherwood offers 50/50 cost-share for tree-related damage



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Example: Significant tree roots revealed after concrete sidewalk panels were removed

Point of Sale Programs

- Point of Sale programs require property owners to repair sidewalks at the time of sale
- Few cities seem to be pursuing Point of Sale -- why not?
- Pasadena, CA requires repairs when doing work on property or when sold



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Consider New Citywide Revenue Source(s)

- New revenue for sidewalks is typically generated at the local level
- Transportation bonds/levys are paid by property owners (Seattle, Kansas City, Austin)
- Sidewalk fees are paid by property owners (Ithaca, Denver) or public utility customers (Corvallis)



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Thank You

Questions?

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Discussion



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