



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

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Agenda Item Number: 3

Agenda Date: October 31, 2022

In Control: Transportation and Mobility Committee Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Public Works Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Razi Hosseini

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

City of San Antonio's Sidewalk Improvement Programs

SUMMARY:

The Public Works Department will brief the Transportation and Mobility Committee on the City's Sidewalk Improvement Programs and current efforts to improve the City's Sidewalk network.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Public Works Department is responsible for building and maintaining the publicly owned infrastructure of the City of San Antonio, including streets, sidewalks, city-owned buildings, alleys, drainage, traffic signals, and storm water infrastructure.

The City of San Antonio sidewalk network currently has 5,251 miles of existing sidewalks with approximately 1,593 miles of gaps yet to be filled. In addition, 206 miles of the existing sidewalks have deteriorated and need to be reconstructed. Public Works oversees a number of sidewalk

improvement programs that are focused on constructing new sidewalks to close gaps in the sidewalk network, reconstructing the deteriorated sidewalks, as well as installing pedestrian ramps in compliance with the 2009 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The programs include the Bond Program, Infrastructure Management Program (IMP) - Streets and Sidewalks, Neighborhood Access & Mobility Program (NAMP) and other location specific projects funded as part of the annual Capital Budget.

These sidewalk improvement programs aim to enhance the connectivity of the sidewalk network and make San Antonio a more “pedestrian friendly” community for its citizens by constructing new sidewalks where gaps exist and restoring areas where the sidewalk has deteriorated to usability.

In FY 2018, as part of the City’s Conceptual Sidewalk Master Plan, Public Works developed a new Project Selection and Prioritization Criteria to include criteria such as pedestrian safety, proximity to schools, transit access, zero car households, healthcare facilities, and other destinations (parks, libraries, community centers, etc.). Public Works seeks to promote public health and equity by prioritizing the installation of new sidewalks in these areas.

In FY 2020, to complement the work being done to fill gaps in the sidewalk network, the Public Works Department established the Sidewalk Reconstruction Program as a component of the IMP – Sidewalk Program. This program, executed by City crews, was further enhanced in FY 2023 through the addition of a second crew as part of the FY 2023 budget. The program primarily focuses on residential neighborhoods and is intended to facilitate the reconstruction of deteriorated sidewalks that are hazardous to pedestrians. This program also uses the sidewalk prioritization criteria and data from a comprehensive sidewalk condition assessment to prioritize the reconstruction of sidewalks in areas where no more than 30% of the residential block needs to be reconstructed. This enables the utilization of allocated funds to strategically reconstruct deteriorated sidewalks in a manner that restores the most miles of sidewalks to usability.

In FY 2023, the primary Sidewalk Programs (IMP & Bond) Public Works Department will utilize the allocated budget of \$21.5 million to add 48 miles of new sidewalks to the network and restore 13 miles of the existing sidewalks to usability.

ISSUE:

The Public Works Department will brief the Transportation and Mobility Committee on the City’s Sidewalk Programs and current efforts to improve the City’s Sidewalk network.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This memo is for briefing purposes only.

ALTERNATIVES:

This memo is for briefing purposes only.

RECOMMENDATION:

This memo is for briefing purposes only.