

Sidewalk Inventory and Improvement Recommendations – City of Vergennes

Prepared by the Planning Commission – City of Vergennes, July 25, 2016

Overview: This list of recommendations for potential sidewalk improvements was developed by the Planning Commission (PC) with the assistance from the administration and students of Vergennes Union High School (VUHS).

Methodology: The PC identified all City-owned streets with sidewalks and developed a sidewalk assessment form. Volunteers from VUHS conducted preliminary assessment of all City sidewalks. Members of the PC re-assessed problem areas or “hot spots” along with any conflicting ratings from the first round of assessments. The PC then developed an interactive Google Map to illustrate the assessments. Here is a link to that map: <https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=10zjUlv4APbgKlrDmAH9rCFRtUnA>

Recommendations

High Priority “Hot Spots”: These locations have been identified as high priority “hot spots” needing repair. They are generally in worse condition than sidewalks in the area. The locations are identified by approximate street address. These may not be the only areas needing improvement, but they are what the PC considers the highest priority locations.

Severe Cracks

- 21 Comfort Hill
- 25 Comfort Hill
- High St
- 30 Macdonough Dr
- 38 Macdonough Dr
- 40 Macdonough Dr
- 44 Macdonough Dr
- 50 Macdonough Dr
- 62 Macdonough Dr
- N Maple St
- 3 Short St
- 29 S Maple St
- 45 S Maple St
- 51 S Maple St
- 7 S Water St
- 38 S Water St
- 66 S Water St
- 86 S Water St
- 104 S Water St
- 13 Spring St

Missing Sidewalk

- High St
- 116 Main St
- 104 S Water St
- White St

Uneven Sidewalk

- 104 Green St
- 12 King St
- 107 Main St
- 116 Main St
- 8 School St
- 23 S Maple St
- 28 S Maple St
- 32 S Maple St
- 107 S Maple St
- 124 S Maple St
- 155 S Maple St
- 31 S Water St
- 35 S Water St
- 66 S Water St
- 73 S Water St
- 81 S Water St
- 88 S Water St
- 5 Thomas Cir
- 15 Thomas Cir
- 27 Thomas Cir

Potential Sidewalk Extensions/Connections: The PC identified several areas that should be considered for sidewalk extensions. We encourage the City Council to ascertain public opinion to determine need and priority.

- West Main St (from Hopkins Rd to City limit – please note a sidewalk extension on West Main St from Hillside Dr to Hopkins Rd is in process through the Claybrook Development)

- Pantan Rd (from First St to City limit)
- Comfort Hill (from High St to City limit)
- High St (connect Comfort Hill to Macdonough Dr)
- S Water St (connect S Water St to S Maple St and Victory St)
- Booska Ct (connect Booska Ct to Green Meadow Acres)
- Maple Manor
- Booth Woods

Potential Sidewalk Elimination: The PC identified one area that might be considered for sidewalk elimination. The PC did not reach consensus on this idea and it warrants more detailed discussion. We encourage the City Council to ascertain public opinion to determine if this is an appropriate change.

- S Water St (keep sidewalk on only one side of the street from Roberts St to S Maple St.) This was suggested as the condition of the sidewalk on S Water St is generally poor and in places very narrow making winter maintenance an issue. Some PC members feel that retaining sidewalk on both sides is in keeping with the surrounding neighborhood. Others feel that eliminating the poor sidewalk and upgrading the sidewalk on the other side of the street will enhance the character of the surrounding neighborhood. More discussion is needed.

Next Steps: Please note this represents a first pass for possible sidewalk improvements. The sidewalk survey and map are intended to be a living document that will change as improvements are made and conditions change. The PC is willing to work with the City Council and the Department of Public Works to facilitate improvements. This may include providing assistance in using the mapping tool, conducting new assessments, etc.