

SUMMARY



Through the sidewalk master planning process, recommendations were developed to assist the City in the installation and maintenance of pedestrian facilities. The results of the study identified areas for improvement in City requirements and business processes, design and planning elements and most notably installation and maintenance. The following recommendations are made to guide near-term sidewalk implementation and establish a process for successful management of an integrated pedestrian network.

CITY REQUIREMENTS AND PROCESSES

- Enforcement of the UDC requirements for sidewalk installation should be continued to ensure new developments are contributing to the sidewalk network.
- A unique sidewalk fund should be established within the City of Georgetown to track all fee-in-lieu payments by developers who utilized the Deferred Installation or Alternative Sidewalk Plan. This will ensure fees are dedicated to sidewalk facilities identified in the Master Plan.
- Minor rewording of the UDC will ultimately be required to capture the prioritized sidewalk analysis completed in this Master Plan. Rewording should also include provisions to account for installation of pedestrian facilities “above and beyond” those defined in the adopted City of Georgetown Construction Standards and Details.
- Within 24 months of adoption of this Plan, the City of Georgetown should review current City practice for sidewalk ownership and the liabilities associated with sidewalk construction

and maintenance. Consideration should be given to sidewalk management and maintenance models established in other cities.

DESIGN AND PLANNING ELEMENTS

- Sidewalks should be located on at least one side of every roadway within the City. Some roadways, in particular the major arterials, should have sidewalks located on both sides of the roadway throughout the developed portions of the City.
- Along arterials, sidewalks should be separated from the curb and/or edge of roadway wherever possible. Required and recommended sidewalk setbacks should be more clearly identified in the UDC. This separation provides for safer movement of pedestrians.
- The City should develop a single document that clearly identifies sidewalk width and setback requirements. This should be reviewed and agreed to by all applicable City departments.
- Well-marked crosswalks should be provided at all signalized intersections and intersections near schools. Crosswalks should also be installed at unsignalized intersections with arterials.
- Sidewalks can be integrated with bicycle facilities as shared-use paths, where appropriate, to development a comprehensive multi-modal network.

SIDEWALK INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE

- Adopt a policy standard for maintenance of the pedestrian network with associated funding levels.
- Complete Master Plan Priority 1 projects within 10 years. While the Master Plan list prioritizes sidewalk segments, flexibility will be required in implementation of the plan. It is anticipated that the sidewalk segments could move up or down the priority list based on a variety of external factors including ongoing or future roadway construction projects, new developments, construction cost estimates, etc.
- Document public comments received on deficient or missing sidewalk infrastructure. Managing these comments will make for easier prioritization of projects in future reviews.
- Fill sidewalk gaps as soon as possible. Although sidewalk gaps were not always identified as Priority 1 improvements through the prioritization process, completing these segments will provide for quick and cost effective upgrades to the current sidewalk system.
- Incorporate findings from the annual sidewalk review process prior to the initiation of the CIP process, including:
 - An audit of projects completed in the prior year in terms of costs, scheduling and scope. It is recommended that completed projects be tracked in the GIS database.
 - An analysis of current needs compared to the prioritized project list. A detailed cost evaluation will be required once current projects needs have been identified and annual projects selected.
 - Funding request through the CIP process, informed by expected revenues, community partnerships and grants.