

Village of Niles
2023 Street Improvement Program
FAQs

- CAN THE SIDEWALK BE REPLACED WITHOUT CURB AND GUTTER?

The current combination sidewalk is a substandard design and causes frequent issues with the Village. Streets that have the sidewalk without curb has shown accelerated deterioration, rutting, uneven pavement and increase in maintenance. These streets also develop dips at driveways that could potentially damage vehicles. Residents often fill in the gaps with asphalt ramps which leads to improper drainage on the street. It is in the Village's view that curb & gutter and wider sidewalks (5') are necessary on streets to improve drainage and decrease potential problems.

- WHERE IS MY PROPERTY LINE AND WILL WORK BE DONE ON MY PROPERTY?

In general, resident's property starts 33-feet from center of road. In the Evergreen Estates Neighborhood that means the property line is about 16-17 feet behind the existing sidewalk. Although work will be performed on the front lawn. All work will be kept within the Village Right Of Way.

- WILL THE SECTION OF ORIOLE AVENUE FROM HOWARD STREET TO OAKTON STREET THAT IS IN PARK RIDGE ALSO BE IMPROVED?

Yes. The project will be a collaboration between the Village of Niles and the City of Park Ridge.

- WHAT HAPPENS TO MY STREET ACCESS?

During construction, your street, driveway, and sidewalk access will remain intact to the greatest extent possible. Due to the nature of the project however, there will be instances where parking, driveway, and pedestrian access will be altered or lost for a period of time. Every step possible will be taken to minimize disruption.

- WILL THE CONSTRUCTION AFFECT MY PROPERTY OR SERVICES?

Wherever grass or sidewalk is removed, it will be replaced before the end of the project. If your driveway is removed, it will also be replaced with the same material. The goal for the project is to improve the infrastructure and roadway, we plan to leave the project looking better than when we started. There will be also be no changes in your regular services such as garbage pick-up, mail delivery, or emergency services from the Police and Fire Departments. There may be times during the day when service vehicle access to your home will be interrupted. We will try to make these interruptions as short as possible.

- WHAT IF I CANNOT GET IN MY DRIVEWAY?

Please note it is difficult to notify you in advance of when the work will begin that will impact your ability to access your driveway. The Contractor will notify you, at your door, before beginning work that will interrupt access to your driveway.

If construction activities are preventing you from accessing your driveway, please park nearby on the street. The work will be phased into several parts so that nearby streets will remain open for parking. We will maintain safe pedestrian access throughout construction. There will be signage and notifications on access restrictions. Every step possible will be taken to minimize disruption. If you have special needs due to a disability, please contact the Public Works Department.

- WHAT IF I HAVE A SPRINKLER SYSTEM, DECORATIVE LANDSCAPING OR BRICK PAVERS IN MY PARKWAY OR IN MY PROPERTY CLOSE TO THE SIDEWALK?

If you have a decorative landscaping, invisible dog fence, etc., please notify the Public Works Department. Per Village ordinance, and if necessary, it is your responsibility to temporarily relocate, reinstall, or repair any of these items during construction. Irrigations systems that are disturbed and/or portions of brick paver aprons that need to be removed because of the construction will be re-installed by the Village.

- WILL I RECEIVE ADDITIONAL NOTIFICATIONS?

Yes. Additional information will be sent out closer to the construction start date in 2023.

- HOW CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

For specific questions or issues, please contact:

Bob Rado, Civil Engineer at:

Village of Niles, Public Works Department

6849 Touhy Avenue, Niles, IL 60714-3174

Phone: (847) 588-7924 Email: rjr@vniles.com



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Fact Sheet

The Benefits of Sidewalks

Health Benefits

- Sidewalks provide opportunities for walking, and studies have shown that people with access to sidewalks are more likely to walk¹ and meet the Surgeon General's recommendations for physical activity².
- Physical inactivity contributes to the incidence of obesity, diabetes, hypertension, heart disease and certain cancers; and it carries a risk burden close to that of smoking.

Economic Benefits

- A study by the Urban Land Institute shows home buyers are willing to pay more for homes in walkable neighborhoods. Each single point increase of a place's walk score can raise property values by up to \$3,000.
- Real Estate Research Corp. analysis shows property values rise fastest in pedestrian friendly areas.
- Sidewalks improve access to business and industry for employees relying on public transportation.
- More vibrant places with increased retail traffic

Other benefits of sidewalks include:

- Safer streets by reductions in traffic deaths & injuries
- Reduced crime risk through increased pedestrian traffic - "more eyes on the street" as promoted by the International Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Association (www.cpted.net).
- Enhanced sense of community through better connections to neighbors and businesses.
- Decreased use of cars for short trips, saving gas and lowering emissions. Most car trips in the U.S. are less than 2 miles, short enough to be accomplished on foot or by bicycle, if the infrastructure supports walking or biking. Cars have their poorest efficiency and so burn more gas during the first few miles of travel.

1. Eyler, A.A., Brownson, R.C., Bacak, S.J., & Housemann, R.A. (2003). The epidemiology of walking for physical activity in the United States. *Medicine & Science in Sports & Exercise*, 35(9), 1529-1536. 2. Brownson, R. C., Baker, E. A., Housemann, R. A., Brennan, L. K., & Bacak, S. J. (2001). Environmental and policy determinants of physical activity in the United States. *American Journal of Public Health*, 91(12), 1995-2003.