



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Diane Wolfe Marlin and Members of the City Council

FROM: William R. Gray, Public Works Director
Bradley M. Bennett, Assistant City Engineer

DATE: May 24, 2018

RE: Replacement of the existing brick sidewalk on Anderson Street between East High and East Green Streets with a new concrete sidewalk.

Action Requested

Approval of a motion for the replacement of the existing brick sidewalk on Anderson Street between East High and East Green Streets with a new concrete sidewalk.

Background and Facts

In the 1970s, the City Council adopted a resolution which prohibited the replacement of brick sidewalks with anything but brick. In 1988, the City Council made an exception to that policy and approved a conversion of two locations to concrete because they were in poor condition and were isolated pieces of brick sidewalk. City Council adopted Ordinance Number 2002-02-014 on February 18, 2002 that established new requirements regarding the repair and replacement of brick sidewalks. The new ordinance identified certain existing brick sidewalks as “Major Brick Walk” areas that require Council approval to be replaced by a concrete sidewalk. Ordinance 2002-02-014 states that for “Major Brick Walk” areas a waiver may be granted by a motion passed by majority vote of the alderpersons holding office to allow a brick sidewalk to be replaced with a concrete sidewalk.

Illinois American Water is installing a new water main on the west side of Anderson Street between East Green and East High Streets that required the removal of the existing brick sidewalk for the entire block. All of the property owners on the west side of that block, which includes 607 East Green Street, 305 Anderson Street, and 608 East High Street, have requested to Public Works staff that the brick sidewalk be replaced with a new concrete sidewalk. The property owner requests for the concrete sidewalk are included in Attachment A.

The existing brick sidewalk is in a “Major Brick Walk” area as identified in Section 20-31 of the City Code and requires Council approval to be replaced with a concrete sidewalk. The location of the brick sidewalk requested for replacement with a concrete sidewalk is shown in Attachment B.

The property owners are concerned about tripping hazards associated with the existing brick sidewalk that have resulted in falls for guests visiting those properties. They are also concerned about the maintenance of brick sidewalks since the existing sidewalk is completely overgrown with vegetation and in poor condition. Photos of the condition of the existing sidewalk prior to its removal are shown in Attachment C.

The sidewalk ramps at the intersections of High Street and Green Street will be replaced with concrete even if the sidewalk is to remain in brick in order to meet the current Public Rights-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG) requirements.

Financial Impact

There are no costs associated with replacing the existing brick sidewalk with a new concrete sidewalk for the City. Illinois American Water will have to replace the existing sidewalk as part of their water main replacement project.

Recommendations

It is recommended that a motion for the replacement of the existing brick sidewalk on Anderson Street between East High and East Green Streets with a new concrete sidewalk per City standards be approved.

Attachments: Attachment A– Property Owner Requests for Replacement with Concrete Sidewalk
Attachment B – Brick Sidewalk Replacement Location Map
Attachment C –Photos of Brick Sidewalk Condition

ATTACHMENT A - PROPERTY
OWNER REQUESTS FOR REPLACEMENT WITH CONCRETE SIDEWALK



Public Works Department
Engineering Division
706 Glover Avenue
Urbana, Illinois 61802
(217) 384-2342

May 10, 2018

████████████████████
305 South Anderson Street
Urbana, IL 61801

Re: Sidewalk Repair Preference for 305 South Anderson Street

The Illinois American Water Company is installing a new water main under the brick sidewalk in front of 305 South Anderson Street. The old brick sidewalk must be removed for the water main installation.

According to City ordinance, brick sidewalks are to be repaired or reconstructed with bricks in designated areas. Property owners may request the City Council to waive this requirement to allow repair or reconstruction in concrete. Typically a homeowner would choose to replace the brick sidewalk with a concrete sidewalk to reduce maintenance and improve travel for elderly or disabled citizens. However, if you prefer to leave the sidewalk in brick, it will still be repaired and maintained by the City.

Please determine which type of sidewalk you prefer to be in front of your property and contact me by phone at 217-384-2342, by email me at beholzhausen@urbanaininois.us, or return **page 2** of this letter in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope. Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Respectfully,

Ben Holzhausen
Civil Engineering Technician I

ATTACHMENT A - PROPERTY
OWNER REQUESTS FOR REPLACEMENT WITH CONCRETE SIDEWALK

305 South Anderson Street Sidewalk Preference

Please fill in the following information for our records:

Name: [REDACTED]

Date: 5-14-18

Mailing Address:

305 S. Anderson

Urbana IL 61801

Please select one of the following preferences for existing brick sidewalk in front of your property:

Replacement of brick sidewalk with concrete sidewalk.

Maintain the existing brick sidewalk.

ATTACHMENT A - PROPERTY
OWNER REQUESTS FOR REPLACEMENT WITH CONCRETE SIDEWALK



Public Works Department
Engineering Division
706 Glover Avenue
Urbana, Illinois 61802
(217) 384-2342

May 10, 2018

[REDACTED]
1108 East Mumford Drive
Urbana, IL 61801

Re: Sidewalk Repair Preference for 607 East Green Street.

The Illinois American Water Company is installing a new water main under the brick sidewalk in front of 607 East Green Street. The old brick sidewalk must be removed for the water main installation.

According to City ordinance, brick sidewalks are to be repaired or reconstructed with bricks in designated areas. Property owners may request the City Council to waive this requirement to allow repair or reconstruction in concrete. Typically a homeowner would choose to replace the brick sidewalk with a concrete sidewalk to reduce maintenance and improve travel for elderly or disabled citizens. However, if you prefer to leave the sidewalk in brick, it will still be repaired and maintained by the City.

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Respectfully,

Ben Holzhausen
Civil Engineering Technician I

ATTACHMENT A - PROPERTY
OWNER REQUESTS FOR REPLACEMENT WITH CONCRETE SIDEWALK

607 East Green Street Sidewalk Preference

Please fill in the following information for our records:

Name: 

Date: May 10, 2018

Mailing Address:

1108 E Mumford Dr

Urbana, Illinois 61801



Please select one of the following preferences for existing brick sidewalk in front of your property:

Replacement of brick sidewalk with concrete sidewalk.

Maintain the existing brick sidewalk.

ATTACHMENT A - PROPERTY
OWNER REQUESTS FOR REPLACEMENT WITH CONCRETE SIDEWALK



Public Works Department
Engineering Division
706 Glover Avenue
Urbana, Illinois 61802
(217) 384-2342

May 10, 2018

[REDACTED]
608 East High Street
Urbana, IL 61801

Re: Sidewalk Repair Preference for 608 East High Street

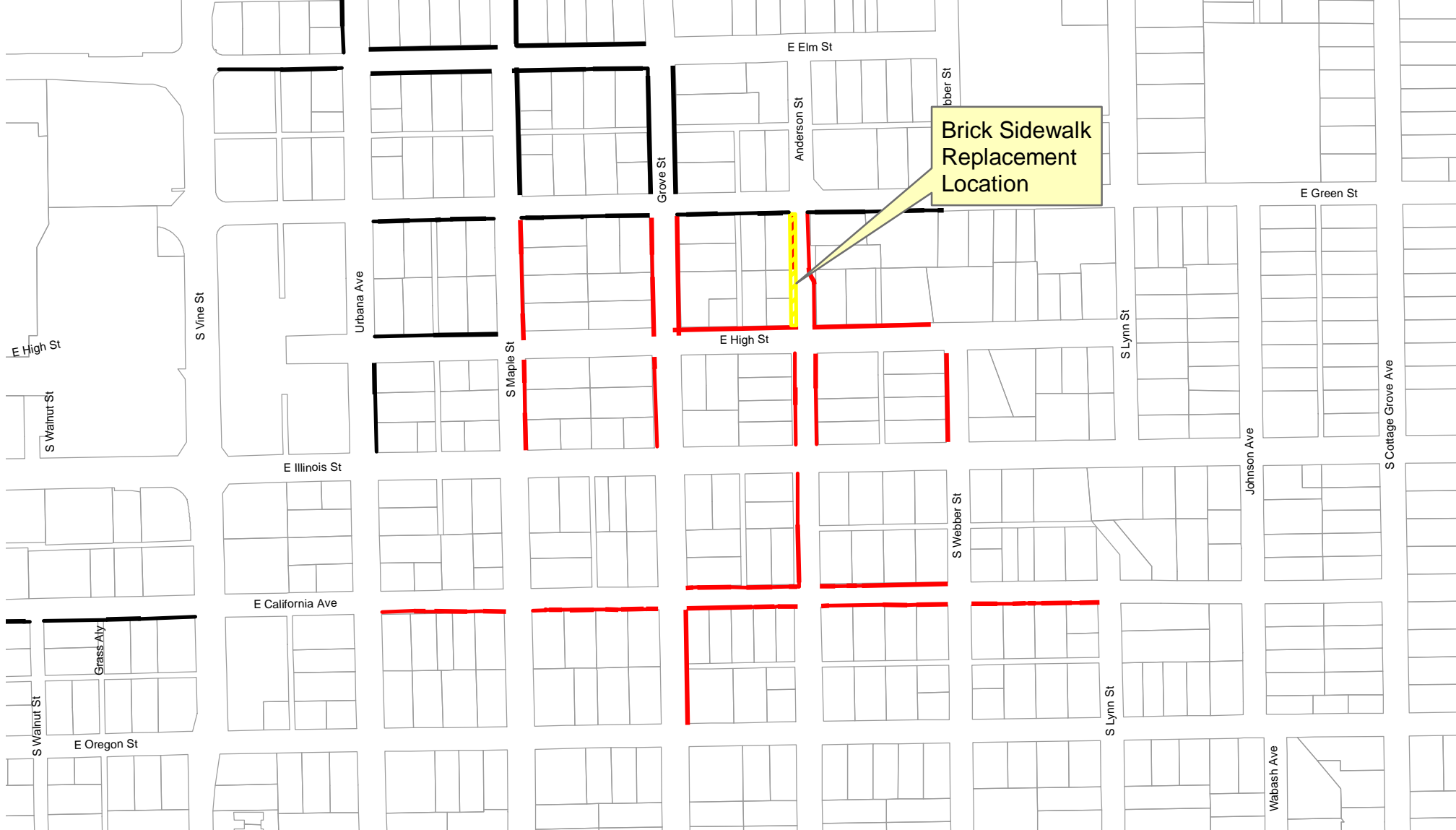
The Illinois American Water Company is installing a new water main under the brick sidewalk in front of 608 East High Street. The old brick sidewalk must be removed for the water main installation.

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Respectfully,

Ben Holzhausen
Civil Engineering Technician I



- BRICK SIDEWALK: By City ordinance, brick sidewalks MAY be repaired or replaced with concrete only if property owner does not wish to keep it as a brick sidewalk.
- MAJOR BRICK WALK BLOCKS: By City ordinance, brick sidewalks are to be repaired or reconstructed with bricks. Property owners may request the City Council to waive this requirement to allow repair or reconstruction in concrete.



ATTACHMENT "B" BRICK SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT LOCATION MAP



5/21/2018

ATTACHMENT C – PHOTOS OF BRICK SIDEWALK CONDITION



Picture of Brick Sidewalk on Anderson Street Mid-Block between High and Green Streets



Picture of Brick Sidewalk on Anderson Street at High Street looking North

ATTACHMENT C – PHOTOS OF BRICK SIDEWALK CONDITION



Picture of Brick Sidewalk on Anderson Street at Green Street looking South