

# ASSISTING PROPERTY OWNERS AS WE CREATE A MORE WALKABLE COMMUNITY

## How it works

Property owners who receive a sidewalk violation notice from the City are eligible for a rebate of up to \$3.50 per square foot of sidewalk repaired or replaced, up to a total of \$800 per street frontage. A corner lot with a sidewalk along both streets could be eligible for up to \$1,600.

The property owner is responsible for completing repair work to City specifications and submitting an application for the rebate program to the City.

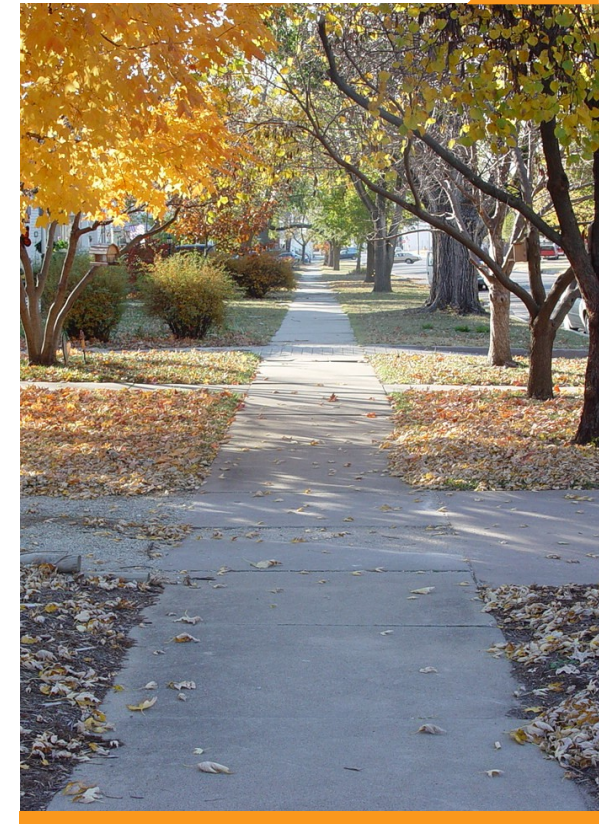
## Eligibility

Only property owners who receive official notice from the City of Newton to make repairs to their sidewalks are eligible for the program. Applications are available at the third-floor reception desk at City Hall or online at [www.newtonkansas.com/sidewalks](http://www.newtonkansas.com/sidewalks).

Rebates will be available on a first come, first served basis until all funds budgeted for the program are exhausted.



# Sidewalk Repair Rebate Program



## CONTACT US

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## Frequently asked questions

### **Why do I have to pay for fixing my sidewalk?**

Under State statute, it's the responsibility of the adjacent property owner to keep public sidewalks in good repair and free of trip hazards. You could be liable if someone were injured on your unsafe sidewalk.

### **Can I fix my own sidewalk?**

You are welcome to make repairs yourself or hire a contractor, as long as sidewalks are built to City specifications. You are responsible for obtaining a City construction permit before work begins.

### **What if a tree root caused the damage to my sidewalk?**

Tree situations will be evaluated by the City Horticulturist on a case-by-case basis to determine the best way to prevent future damage and still maintain the tree, if possible.

### **How does the City decide which sidewalks need to be repaired?**

In general, sidewalk repairs are ordered when the City is contacted by a resident with a complaint about a particular area. Violations include:

- Overgrowth – Earth or vegetation covering the sidewalk.
- Uneven Surface – Sidewalk section raised more than approximately ½ inch above any other section.
- Tree Roots – Damage done to sidewalks caused by tree roots.
- Cracks – Any broken sections or cracks larger than hairline.

### **Are rental properties eligible for the rebate?**

Yes, landlords may apply for the sidewalk rebate for rental properties.

### **Can I also replace the walkway that leads up to my house?**

You are welcome to replace your walkways. However, only sidewalk repairs ordered by the City are eligible for the rebate program.

### **Only three squares of my sidewalk were marked for repair. Can I replace the whole sidewalk?**

You are welcome to replace sections of sidewalk that were not marked by the City, but those repairs will not be eligible for the rebate program.

### **I had to fix my sidewalk a few years ago. Can I get any reimbursement?**

Unfortunately, the City is only able to offer this program for sidewalk violations issued in 2020 and 2021.