

TOWN OF GRAND ISLAND

RESIDENTIAL SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT/REPAIR REQUIREMENTS

Complete specifications for sidewalk construction are contained in Chapter 323 of the Town Code & ICC/ANSI A117.1-2009. The following is a summary of code requirements.

RE-ALIGNMENT

Blocks of sidewalk that are intact, but not aligned vertically with adjacent blocks, may be “shimmed up” with sand or stone, or lowered if it has been heaved, so that they are properly aligned again. A sidewalk section which is out of level by more than 1”, would present a tripping hazard. A situation where sidewalk sections have large holes or are out of level alignment by 2” or more are in need of critical repairs.

REPLACEMENT

Residential sidewalks shall be four feet wide and constructed of 4,000 psi concrete. They shall be six inches thick across driveways and a minimum of four inches thick in all other locations, constructed on four inches compacted, crushed stone. Reinforcing steel, either bar or mesh is recommended in areas subject to heaving or settling.

TEMPORARY REPAIR

Concrete sand mix may be used to temporarily correct alignment issues that are less than three inches, on sidewalk sections that are not severely heaved. The slope on the repair may not be steeper than 1:8. That is eight inches horizontally for every inch of height difference. For example, if the elevation between two adjacent blocks is two inches, the repair area must extend out sixteen inches. It should be noted that this type of repair is considered temporary due to the difficulty of permanently bonding thin layers of new concrete to existing surfaces, as well as freeze-thaw cycles.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

TOWN CODE, CHAPTER 323-8 (A):

The owner or occupant of any premises fronting or abutting on any street or highway shall repair, keep and maintain the sidewalk of such premises, whether located in the highway right-of-way or on private property, free and clear from snow, ice, dirt, or other obstructions. Any such owner or occupant shall be liable for any injury or damage by reason of omission, failure or negligence to repair, keep and maintain such sidewalk or to remove snow, ice or other obstructions therefrom.

Anyone requiring clarification of the aforementioned should contact the Building Department at 773-9600, Ext. 646.

TREE POLICY

The Town Board recognizes the fact that some, maybe even the majority, of the sidewalk problems are caused by tree roots. We also recognize that there is a definite value to trees in general and to tree lined streets in particular.

We have established a new policy, with the consent and cooperation of the Highway Superintendent. Under the new policy the Town will accept the responsibility for trees, in a Town owned right of way, which are diseased or present a life safety hazard (no live trees). Removal of any other trees, for any other reason, will be the responsibility of the adjacent property owner.

A formal written request for Town tree removal may be made to the Highway Superintendent.