

## SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE PROGRAM FAQ

### **1. Q. I have received a notice of defective sidewalk. How do I appeal this finding?**

A. Send a letter to the Hiawatha City Council requesting a hearing. The letter should contain your address, the nuisance description and your reason for appeal. The letter must be postmarked or stamped received less than 30 days from the date of the notice of correction. Send this letter to: Attn: City Clerk, City of Hiawatha, 101 Emmons Street, Hiawatha IA 52233

### **2. Q. Will the City pay for any of my sidewalk repair?**

A. Generally the City will not pay for sidewalk repairs unless the defect has been caused by the City.

### **3. Q. Do I need a permit to complete the work?**

A. Yes: A permit is required. Application can be made at City Hall or on line at [Hiawatha-iowa.com](http://Hiawatha-iowa.com). The cost of the permit is \$0 for residential one and two family properties and \$100 for all other properties.

### **4. Q. What if I don't repair the sidewalk as directed by the CITY?**

A. Sidewalk repairs that are not completed by the PROPERTY OWNER will be repaired by the CITY or its designee. Upon completion of the repair, the CITY will bill the owner and subsequently assess the unpaid balance to be collected with the property taxes. The bill will include additional fees and penalties.

### **5. Q. When the City performs the repairs, are there other options for payment?**

A. Current state code provides an assessment process for unpaid invoices. Owners may defer payment in full and the City will provide the invoice to the Linn County Treasurer to add onto your taxes. Assessments in excess of \$500 may be made in 10 annual installments plus interest.

### **6. Q. Will I be assessed for the sidewalk repairs and if so when?**

A. Yes: Unpaid invoices will be assessed in accordance with State Statute. See questions # 5 and # 6.

### **7. Q. May I use a filler to fill cracks and level my sidewalk?**

A. For horizontal separations less than 1" a flowable leveling material is permitted. Product must be approved by the City Engineer.

### **8. Q. May I "mud jack" my sidewalk to raise dropped sidewalk sections.**

A. Yes, this is allowed however it will require a permit and an inspection as per a sidewalk replacement. Care must be taken to properly finish the pump penetration.

### **9. Q. May I grind the sidewalk raised edges to meet compliance?**

A. Grinding is permitted for vertical differences less than one (1) inch if the grind extends at a 1 to 12 slope horizontally.

### **10. Q. May I replace an existing 4 feet wide sidewalk with a 4 feet wide sidewalk?**

A. Yes. An existing 4 feet wide sidewalk may be replaced with a 4 feet wide sidewalk.