

Sidewalk Policy

Policy Number 11

Policy Type Infrastructure

Policy Name Sidewalk Policy

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Sidewalks

The Town of Eston Council has implemented a plan to identify where sidewalks in the community will be maintained long term, and where they will be phased out. The attached map shall serve as part of this policy and as the official plan of where sidewalks will be maintained in the Town of Eston. Unmarked locations indicate where sidewalks do not exist or are to be phased out.

Phasing Out Sidewalks

In locations where sidewalks are to be phased out, the Town will remove the sidewalk as time, budget and resources exist. This phaseout process is expected to take many years. Sidewalk removal will be prioritized based on:

- 1. Identification of safety concerns
- Available budget and resources
- 3. Resident requests

Unless otherwise agreed to with Council, where a sidewalk is removed, the Town will complete removal of the sidewalk. The resident is then responsible for filling and maintaining the area where the sidewalk previously existed. If the sidewalk removal is not currently prioritized by the Town, the resident can make application to the Town to remove the sidewalk at their own expense, provided that the area is filled and maintained, potential drainage issues are addressed, existing curbs remain intact and that tripping hazards with remaining sidewalks are not created.

Where a resident wishes to maintain or replace a sidewalk in a location that is not identified in the sidewalk plan, the resident must make application to Council including the rationale for the exception. These will be approved by Council on a case by case basis, with the motion to include required size, quality and any other details relevant to construction and maintenance. Generally speaking, exceptions will not be permitted without unique rationale, in order to keep a consistent look of boulevards on each block.

Sidewalk Replacement and Upkeep

Where the sidewalk plan identifies sidewalks are to be kept long term, sidewalks will be maintained as budget and resources allow. Problem areas are to be identified to the Director of Public Works and considered as part of annual planning. Ideally, Council will allocate funds annually for some replacement and maintenance to occur, so that over a period of time all long term sidewalks are brought up to a usable condition. Once all sidewalks are brought to what is deemed by Council to be an acceptable condition, it is recommended that a reserve fund be contributed to annually to plan for future maintenance and replacement.

