

Shared Cost Sidewalk Program

Program Overview

The 2025 Shared Cost Sidewalk Program will open to new applicants on January 13, 2025, from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

The Shared Cost Sidewalk Program cost per square foot charged to property owners is well below what a private contractor would charge. Senior citizens and persons with disabilities may qualify to receive a 50 percent discount. Information on how to apply for this discount can be found on Page 7 of this document.

The scope of a Shared Cost Sidewalk Program project is limited to sidewalk within the public right-of-way, and may include the main walk, the sidewalk through a driveway, the existing courtesy walk (which runs perpendicular from the main sidewalk to the curb), and existing landing steps (the small strip of concrete sometimes found adjacent to the curb). Sidewalk on private property will only be included if needed for transition purposes; otherwise, it is **NOT** eligible for replacement under the Shared Cost Sidewalk Program. Owners of corner properties will be charged for sidewalk on both the main (address) side and the non-address side of the property. CDOT will continue to build ADA-compliant corner ramps where applicable, with the City paying the entire cost of the ramps.

Replacement of sidewalk is based on engineering considerations. Repairs are focused on damaged sidewalk and will not necessarily improve existing drainage conditions and puddling. In order to minimize the cost to property owners and increase the number of Shared Cost Sidewalk Program participants, only the portion of sidewalk in need of replacement as determined by CDOT is eligible for the Shared Cost Sidewalk Program pricing. The property owner does have the option to replace the entire sidewalk in front of the property. However, the entire cost to remove and replace the portion of sidewalk determined by CDOT to be in good condition will be charged to the property owner. **NO** senior or persons with disabilities discount will be applied to this work. To clarify, the City will not pay for removal and replacement of sidewalk in good condition.

For the 2025 program, applications will be taken on a **first-come, first-served basis**. The number of participants is based on availability of funds.

Applications will only be accepted through the City's 311 system by calling 311, through the City's service request website <https://311.chicago.gov>, or through the free CHI311 mobile apps on iOS Apple and Android.

- Make sure to specify that you want to participate in the Shared Cost Sidewalk Program.
- If you currently do not have a courtesy walk or landing step and would like one installed, this should be mentioned at the time of request. Installation is subject to engineering recommendation.
- If you are interested in removal and replacement of the driveway apron, this should be mentioned at the time of request.
- You must give the property owner's complete name, a contact phone number, email address if available, and the property's complete address. **Please note that Shared Cost Sidewalk Program applications that are missing any of the requested information may not be processed.**

Once the program budget amount is met, the program will close for the year. Applicants will be notified indicating whether they have been included into the 2025 Shared Cost Sidewalk Program. Applicants included in the program will receive a bill in the spring indicating the property owner amount due.

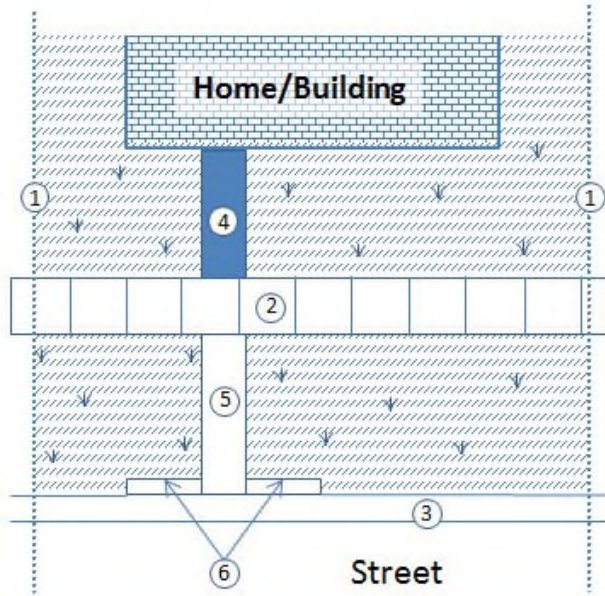
Payment in full must be made to the City's Department of Finance within the timeframe indicated on the bill in order for work to proceed.

The Shared Cost Sidewalk Program continues to provide great value to property owners while helping improve neighborhoods. Should you have any questions, please contact CDOT at (312) 744-1746 or email cdotsharedcost@cityofchicago.org.

SHARED COST SIDEWALK PROGRAM EXAMPLE DIAGRAMS

(NOT TO SCALE)

MID-BLOCK PROPERTY: SIDEWALK WITH PARKWAY

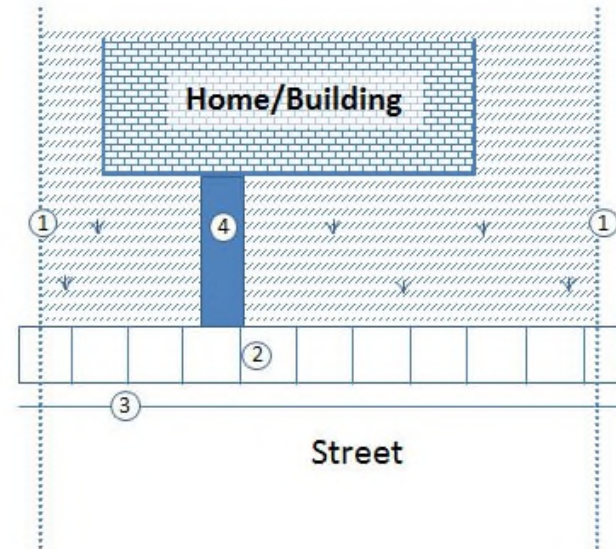


LEGEND:

1. Property Lines
2. Main Sidewalk
3. Curb and gutter (*entirely City cost, when applicable*)
4. **PRIVATE PROPERTY Sidewalk**
5. Courtesy Walk
6. Landing Step
- Grass / Landscaping

Note: Item #4 is private property and not eligible for the Shared Cost Sidewalk Program.

MID-BLOCK PROPERTY: CURB ATTACHED SIDEWALK



LEGEND:

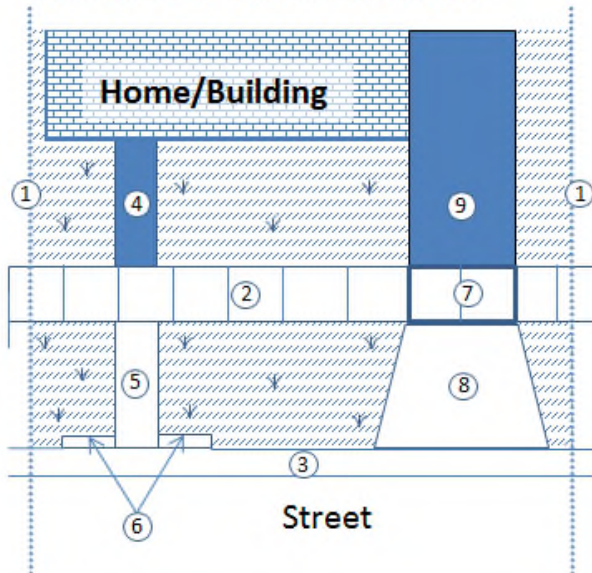
1. Property Lines
2. Main Sidewalk
3. Curb and gutter (*entirely City cost, when applicable*)
- Grass / Landscaping

Note: Item #4 is private property and not eligible for the Shared Cost Sidewalk Program.

SHARED COST SIDEWALK PROGRAM EXAMPLE DIAGRAMS

(NOT TO SCALE)

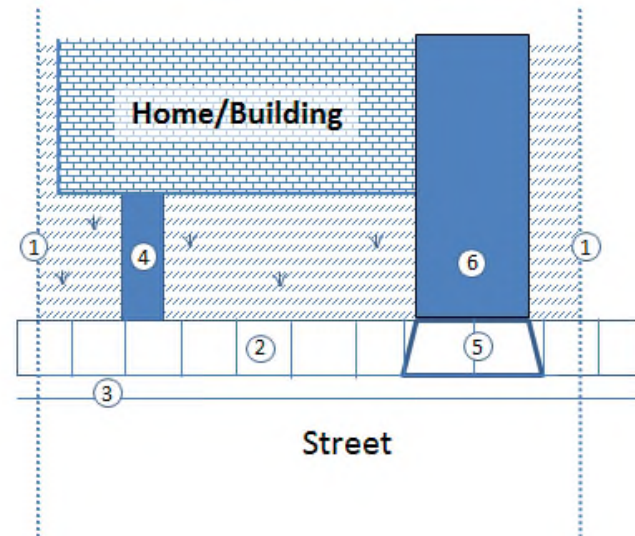
**MID-BLOCK PROPERTY WITH DRIVEWAY:
SIDEWALK WITH PARKWAY**



LEGEND	
1. Property Lines	5. Courtesy Walk
2. Main Sidewalk	6. Landing Step
3. Curb and gutter <i>(entirely City cost, when applicable)</i>	7. Sidewalk thru driveway
4. PRIVATE PROPERTY Sidewalk	8. Driveway Apron
	9. Driveway - PRIVATE PROPERTY
	Grass / Landscaping

Note: Items 4 & 9 are private property and not eligible for the Shared Cost Sidewalk Program

**MID-BLOCK PROPERTY WITH DRIVEWAY:
CURB ATTACHED SIDEWALK**

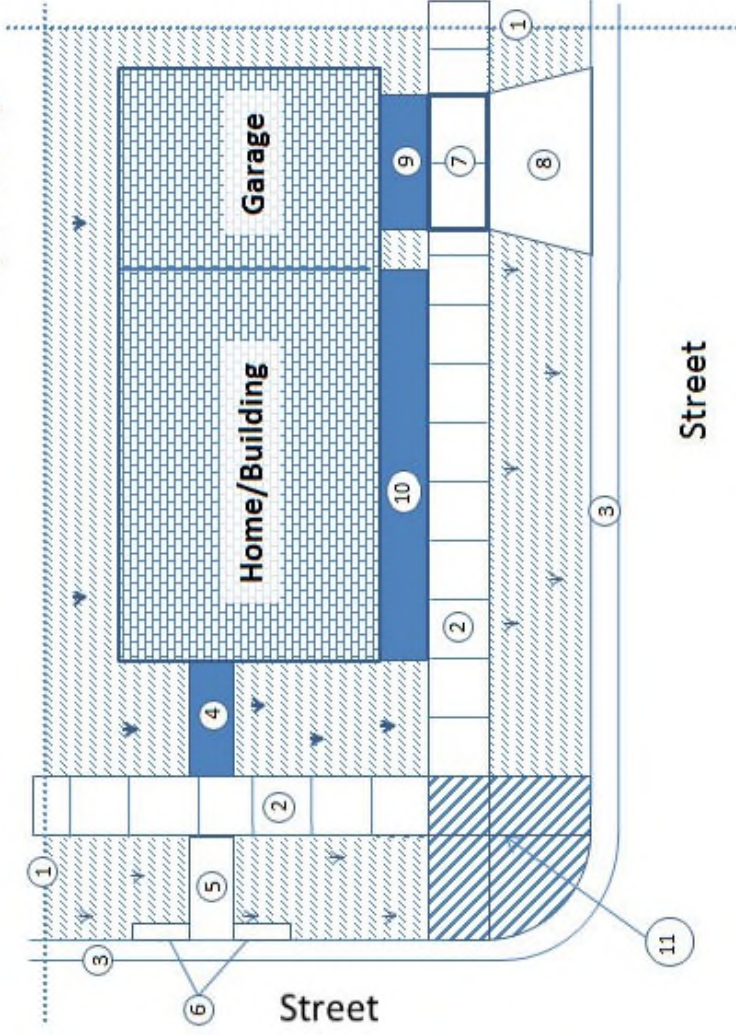


LEGEND:	
1. Property Lines	
2. Main Sidewalk	
3. Curb and gutter <i>(entirely City cost, when applicable)</i>	
4. PRIVATE PROPERTY Sidewalk	
5. Sidewalk thru driveway	
6. Driveway - PRIVATE PROPERTY	
	Grass / Landscaping

Note: Items 4 & 6 are private property and not eligible for the Shared Cost Sidewalk Program

SHARED COST SIDEWALK PROGRAM EXAMPLE DIAGRAM

CORNER PROPERTY (NOT TO SCALE)



LEGEND:

1. Property Lines
2. Main Sidewalk
3. Curb and gutter (entirely City cost, when applicable)
4. PRIVATE PROPERTY Sidewalk
5. Courtesy Walk
6. Landing Step
7. Sidewalk thru driveway
8. Driveway Apron
9. Driveway - PRIVATE PROPERTY
10. Building Apron - PRIVATE PROPERTY
11. ADA Ramps (entirely City cost, when applicable)

Grass / Landscaping

Note: Items 4, 9, & 10 are private property and not eligible for the Shared Cost Sidewalk Program.

Shared Cost Sidewalk Program

Frequently Asked Questions

The Shared Cost Sidewalk Program is a popular voluntary program in which property owners and the City of Chicago share the cost of replacing sidewalks.

The Shared Cost Sidewalk Program cost per square foot charged to property owners is well below what a private contractor would charge. Senior citizens and persons with disabilities may also qualify to receive a 50 percent discount. The approximate cost to a property owner of an average mid-block property will range from \$600 to \$1,500.

How does the process work?

1. Applications for the Shared Cost Sidewalk Program will only be accepted either through the City's 311 system by calling 311, through the City's service request website <https://311.chicago.gov>, or through the free CHI311 mobile apps on iOS Apple and Android.
Please note the following on your application:
 - Make sure to specify that you want to participate in the Shared Cost Sidewalk Program.
 - Specify if you (the owner) are a senior or disabled citizen. Seniors and/or disabled citizens may qualify for a 50 percent discount on the Shared Cost Sidewalk Program cost.
 - If you currently do not have a courtesy walk (which runs perpendicular from the main sidewalk to the curb) or landing step (the small strip of concrete sometimes found adjacent to the curb) and would like one installed, this should be mentioned at the time of request. Installation is subject to engineering recommendation.
 - If you are interested in removal and replacement of the driveway apron (the portion of driveway between the sidewalk and curb), this should be mentioned at the time of request.
 - You must give the property owner's complete name, a contact phone number, email address if available, and the property's complete address. **Please note that Shared Cost Sidewalk Program applications that are missing any of this requested information may not be processed.**
2. Applications will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis. The number of participants is based on availability of funds. Once capacity is reached, requests for participation in the program will no longer be accepted and property owners will have to apply to the program the following year. Applicants will be notified indicating whether they have been included into the Shared Cost Sidewalk Program. Also check our website (https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/cdot/provdrs/street/svcs/shared_cost_sidewalkprogram.html) for program updates.
3. CDOT will survey the area to determine the scope and cost of reconstruction. Sidewalk replacement is based on engineering considerations. CDOT may determine that some locations meet City standards and do not require reconstruction.
4. If CDOT determines that the property is eligible for the Shared Cost Sidewalk Program, CDOT will send a cost estimate for the work to the property owner in the spring. If interested, payment in full must be made to the City's Department of Finance **within the timeframe indicated on the cost estimate.**

Payment can also be made in person at one of the Department of Finance payment locations:

- 121 N LaSalle St Room 107 (Mon.-Fri.: 9am – 5pm)
- 400 W Superior St. 1st Floor (Mon.-Fri.: 8:30am – 4:30pm)
- 4445 N Pulaski Rd (Mon.-Fri.: 9am – 5pm)
- 4770 S Kedzie Ave (Mon.-Fri.: 9am – 5pm)
- 2006 E 95th St (Mon.-Fri.: 9am – 5pm)

5. Payments can be made by credit card in person at the Department of Finance payment locations listed above only.
6. If you are eligible for a senior citizen or persons with disability rate that was not applied to your estimate, contact CDOT at 312-744-1746. A revised cost estimate will be issued to the property owner reflecting the discount once the required documentation has been received and verified. Payment must be submitted within the timeframe indicated **on the original cost estimate.**
7. **Cost estimates are only valid for the timeframe indicated on the estimate. Payment in full must be made to the City's Department of Finance within this timeframe for work to proceed.**
8. The work will begin as soon as possible. The construction season runs approximately from June to December.

Who is eligible to participate?

All property owners with **non**-vaulted sidewalks are eligible to participate. Custom sidewalks (e.g., granite, colored, custom designs, etc.), vaulted sidewalks, water meter vaults, stairs located within the city right-of-way, and private property sidewalks are **not** eligible to be included in the program.

Who is eligible for the senior citizen or persons with disabilities discount?

Seniors (age 65 or older) or disabled owner-occupants of non-commercial properties of four units or less.

What information is required to receive the senior citizen or persons with disabilities rate?

Seniors age 65 or older must provide proof of age, ownership, and occupancy:

- Ownership: tax bill (2nd installment) or title deed
- Age: birth certificate or driver's license or 2nd installment tax bill showing senior exemption
- Occupancy: voter's card or utility bill

Persons with disabilities must provide proof of ownership, occupancy, and disability:

- Ownership: tax bill (2nd installment) or title deed
- Occupancy: voter's card or utility bill
- Disability: Must provide one of the following:
 - Disability benefits received from Social Security Administration, Veterans Administration, Civil Service, or Railroad Retirement
 - Class 2 disability card from the Illinois Secretary of State's Office

To be eligible for the discount, all documents submitted must match the participating address.

Documentation verifying the senior citizen or persons with disabilities rate must be submitted as follows:

- Fax to (312) 744-6438, ATTN: Shared Cost Sidewalk Program
- Email to: cdotsharedcost@cityofchicago.org
- Mail to:

Shared Cost Sidewalk Program
Chicago Department of Transportation
2 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 820
Chicago, Illinois 60602

For any assistance with or questions regarding the senior citizen or persons with disabilities rate, please contact CDOT at 312-744-1746 or email us at cdotsharedcost@cityofchicago.org.

What does the scope of work include?

The scope of a Shared Cost Sidewalk Program project is limited to sidewalk within the public right-of-way and may include replacing the main sidewalk in front of the property, the sidewalk through a driveway, the existing courtesy walk (the smaller walkway that runs perpendicular to the main walk, from the main walk to the curb) and existing landing steps (the small strip of concrete sometimes found adjacent to the curb). Sidewalk on private property will only be included if needed for transition purposes; otherwise it is **NOT** eligible for replacement under the Shared Cost Sidewalk Program. Owners of corner properties will be charged for sidewalk on both the main (address) side and non-address side of the property.

Replacement is based on engineering considerations. Repairs are focused on damaged sidewalk and will not necessarily improve existing drainage conditions and puddling. In order to minimize the cost to property owners and increase the number of Shared Cost Sidewalk Program Participants, only the portion of sidewalk in need of replacement as determined by CDOT is eligible for the Shared Cost Sidewalk Program pricing. Property owners at corner addresses can omit an entire side from the project no matter the condition of the sidewalk. The property owner does have the option to replace the entire sidewalk in front of the property. However, the entire cost to remove and replace the portion of sidewalk determined by CDOT to be in good condition will be charged to the property owner. **NO** senior or persons with disabilities discount will apply to this work. Any sidewalk in good condition that is not eligible for the Shared Cost Sidewalk pricing can be added or removed at the property owner's request. You must reach out to CDOT at 312-744-1746 or email us at cdotsharedcost@cityofchicago.org to receive an invoice that includes the sidewalk not eligible for the Shared Cost Sidewalk Program pricing.

Will the driveway apron be replaced?

If your driveway crosses the sidewalk, the Shared Cost Sidewalk Program scope of work may include the sidewalk through the driveway and a small patch of the driveway alongside it. Abandoned driveway aprons no longer in use will be removed and replaced with topsoil and hydroseed. Removing abandoned driveway aprons and replacing them with topsoil and hydroseed will be paid for by the City.

Due to significant participant interest, the removal and replacement of **permitted** driveway aprons (the portion of driveway between the sidewalk and curb) can be added to the project. To find out the additional cost, please reach out to the Chicago Department of Transportation at cdotsharedcost@cityofchicago.org

Will the area receive grass seed or sod?

The contractor will place topsoil and hydroseed down after the sidewalk has been replaced. It will be the property owner's responsibility to water the seed if necessary. The contractor will not return to add more hydroseed if the first batch does not germinate. If you do not want the contractor to place hydroseed, you will need to contact CDOT at 312-744-1746 or cdotsharedcost@cityofchicago.org.

What if tree roots have impacted the sidewalk?

If necessary, the existing courtesy walk or landing step will be removed and replaced further away from the tree to help avoid future damage. If it is determined the courtesy walk or landing step cannot be either replaced in the current location or relocated, it will be replaced with topsoil and hydroseed. Removing courtesy walks or landing steps and replacing them with topsoil and hydroseed will be charged to you at the standard Shared Cost Sidewalk Program rate.

If a tree or its roots have impacted the main sidewalk, either root pruning will occur before placement of new sidewalk, or the sidewalk will be routed around the tree to allow for future tree growth. Determination will depend on the required arborist report and review done by the Bureau of Forestry. Due to this process, locations with impacting tree roots may delay construction.

What if there is a sprinkler system, private utility or heated sidewalk at the property?

The city is not responsible for any damage done to anything within, or under the sidewalk that is not considered a public utility.

Property owners should notify the city of an existing sprinkler system to minimize any potential damage. To further avoid any potential damage to the sprinkler system, property owners are advised to cut and cap the lines and remove any sprinkler heads that may be damaged during the Shared Cost Sidewalk Program work.

Is there any warranty for the work?

Yes. Sidewalk construction has a warranty of one year from the date of construction, covering significant deterioration of the sidewalk. (Note: Some small cracks, especially in sidewalk joints, are common. Since they are not caused by construction, they are not covered by the warranty).

Is this bill final?

This bill is based on measurements and is considered final. If it is later determined that more work is needed, you will NOT be billed for that additional work. Furthermore, if the amount of work is reduced for any reason, your money will be refunded if the difference is \$100 or greater.

Please contact our office at 312-744-1746 before sending your payment if you would like to request any changes to the scope of work represented on this bill.

What if there is a water meter vault within the public right-of-way?

Water meters and their vaults are the responsibility of the adjacent property owner. All water meter devices including vaults and surrounding sidewalk are to be maintained by and at the expense of the owner or consumer and therefore are not eligible for replacement under the Shared Cost Sidewalk Program.