



COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

To: The Honorable Mayor Cephas and the Commissioners of Cambridge
From: Wayne Suggs, Director of Public Works
Date: July 18th, 2025
Subject: Sidewalk Improvement Program Bids for FY 2026

Background

As part of the Comprehensive Housing Strategy, City staff have been directed to develop the Sidewalk Improvement Program. Currently funded at \$200,000 under the FY 26 budget, this program will aim to identify and repair sections of residential sidewalks that fail to meet City Code. Under the Sidewalk Improvement Program, the City would hire and pay qualified contractors to make necessary repairs at the request of eligible property owners. This program will be administered on a first come first serve basis until all funds are expended for the fiscal year. The loan that funds the repair will be of no interest and amortized over a 5-year period, becoming a self-funded loan fund.

Bids and Prices

Shore Construction LLC has the low bid in a competitive sealed bid process. Bid sheets are attached.

Shore Construction LLC \$172,000
Camper and Son's Concrete Works \$174,750
AJT Homes LLC \$234,850

Eligibility Requirements

For one to be eligible for this program they must meet all requirements listed below:

1. Be a residential property owner within the City of Cambridge
2. Have sidewalk that fails to meet City Code
3. Be current on property taxes
4. Have no outstanding code enforcement actions against the property outside of sidewalks violations

Fiscal Impact

The renovation of pedestrian infrastructure such as residential sidewalks can increase property values.

Equity Impact

Having easily accessible and walkable sidewalks is crucial to the overall wellbeing of the public because it can safely promote access to local amenities and services.

Environmental Impact

The installation of easily accessible sidewalks can promote walking as a mode of transportation, encouraging physical activity, reducing reliance on cars, and fostering a healthier lifestyle, ultimately decreasing one's carbon footprint.

Attachment: Bids, Sign in Sheet, Program Information, Program Application

Cambridge Sidewalk Improvement Program

Sidewalks

FY 2026

Mission

As part of the comprehensive housing strategy, City staff has developed the Cambridge Sidewalk Improvement Program which aims to support all residents, whether property owners, tenants, or visitors by working to ensure that residential sidewalks are easily accessible and safe for all. This program will be administered on a first come first serve basis for applicants who voluntarily request the city's help in replacing or fixing their damaged, cracked, or uneven sidewalk.

Under this new program, the city will hire and pay qualified contractors to make repairs to residential sidewalks. The loan that funds the repair will be of no-interest and amortized over 5 years, through property taxes becoming a self-funded revolving loan fund.

Eligibility Requirements

- Residential Property owner within the City of Cambridge
- Have sidewalk that fails to meet City Code
- Be current on property taxes
- Have no outstanding code enforcement actions against the property outside of sidewalks violations

Application Steps

For any sidewalk to be considered, the City of Cambridge Sidewalk Improvement application form and any required attachments or supporting information must be submitted in its entirety.

1. Define the scope of work for your Sidewalk Improvement Project.
2. Properties within the Cambridge Historic Preservation District do not need to apply for approval through the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) if the sidewalk repairs made through this program do not affect the existing footprint.
3. Staff will meet with each homeowner on site to review scope and submit a written estimate to the homeowner for approval.
4. Upon the City's written approval date, work will begin within three months (90 days) and be completed within six months (180 days). Final receipts will be submitted to the property owner no later than 45 days after the completion of work to ensure program funds are efficiently distributed.
5. Applicants that apply after funds are depleted for the current fiscal year will automatically be added to the following fiscal year.

For more details, questions or assistance: 410-228-1955 or wsuggs@chooscambridge.com

Sidewalk Improvement Program

Please complete the information below

Part A: The Property

1. Address of Sidewalk to be improved and Property Tax ID

2. Owner of property and contact information.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

3. Is the property vacant? ____ Yes ____ No

4. Is the owner living at the property currently? ____ Yes ____ No

5. Is the property currently rented? ____ Yes ____ No

Name of Renter _____

Phone _____ Email _____

6. Provide photos of the sidewalk and the street view (block) of where it is located.

Part B: The Project

7. Describe the planned improvements that are needed (length and width of sidewalk to be replaced)

Name of person completing this form: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Name of person accepting application: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Return completed application packet to:

Department of Public Services, 1025 Washington Street, Cambridge, MD 21613

Questions: (410)228-1955 or Wsuggs@choosecambridge.com

