
Proposed Sidewalk Network Ordinance Amendments



PLANNING &
DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT

Public Comment Summary

June 23, 2022

Summary

- 133 public comments have been received from May 23, 2022 to June 23, 2022.
- In general, 99 (74%) comments support the proposed amendments, 34 (26%) comments oppose the proposed amendments.

General Comments (The following is a summary of the received online comments.)

Support

- The Fee in Lieu of Sidewalk Construction will help to avoid "sidewalk to nowhere."
- Houston Citizens need new sidewalks to stroll the wonderful city.
- Sidewalks encourage safe walking.
- I want a completely connected and walkable city.
- Sidewalks are long overdue for EVERY community in Houston. 100% support.
- Need more sidewalks in my neighborhood. It has become quite a dangerous situation with the major increase in car traffic as well as pedestrian traffic.
- Houston needs to invest in its sidewalk infrastructure.
- The "fee in lieu" should be close to the actual cost of building the sidewalk; a high fee will minimize the number of parcels without sidewalks, while maximizing fund contributions from those that opt out.
- Sidewalk construction is crucial in creating a more accessible, walkable, healthy, and vibrant Houston. We already use a variety of sources to pay for sidewalk construction, but creating a city fund to build sidewalks and fill in patches in the network makes a lot of sense to me.
- Without this, we will continue to struggle to fill in gaps and continue to force people into the street.
- Sidewalks need to be mandatory across the city. This ordinance makes it a little harder to get a waiver, but it could be even harder.
- Do not support the option to not build sidewalks. Missing sidewalks creates serious pedestrian safety concerns.
- COH designated Complete Communities should have priority in funding decisions.
- I would love for our street to have sidewalks, but until we have the funds to do the entire block.

Oppose

- Sidewalk installation adds to the city's flooding problems.
- It's not fair to require sidewalk construction or paying a sidewalk fee where we do not want them.
- Sidewalk construction should be the city's responsibility because it lies within the public right-of-way.
- The last thing Houston needs is replacing green space with concrete.
- Sidewalk project prioritization criteria need to be established before discussion.
- Doubt the sidewalk funds will be allocated equally.