



Dear neighbor,

Sidewalks are an important asset for our neighborhoods – especially for children, seniors, and people with disabilities. Improving the sidewalks and street crossings is an endeavor that impacts all the residents of Memphis, because at the end of the day, we're all pedestrians. The moment we get out of our cars to go in a store, take a walk to the park with our families, or step out of the office to grab lunch at the restaurant next door, we enter a shared environment that should be welcoming, safe, and free of hazards.

Did you know that **maintaining sidewalks is the responsibility of private property owners**, as stated by Memphis City Ordinance\*? While the city may address things like curbs, gutters, wheelchair ramps, drains, and issues caused by utility poles or signs, keeping the sidewalk itself in good repair and free of obstacles is the responsibility of the adjacent home or business owner. The city does offer financial assistance to certain residential property owners, based on their age, physical ability, and income.

This brochure is meant to provide you with some basic information in helping to assess whether your sidewalk is in need of any repairs. If you have questions about whether a repair is necessary or what the City's specifications for sidewalk repair are, please visit [www.memphistn.gov](http://www.memphistn.gov) or call 311 or the City of Memphis Division of Engineering's Sidewalks Department at (901) 636-2462.

We sincerely appreciate your assistance in keeping your sidewalk in good repair.

\*Ord. No. 894, § 1, 4-6-71; Ord. No. 1635, § e, 3-13-73; Code 1967, § 36-105; Ord. No. 3590, § 1(5), 9-2-86



City of Memphis  
Division of Engineering, Traffic Engineering  
125 N. Main Street, Suite 688  
Memphis, TN 38103

# City of Memphis

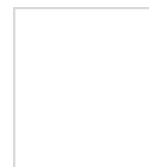
Tennessee



## PROPERTY OWNER'S GUIDE TO SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE & REPAIR

City of Memphis  
Division of Engineering  
Sidewalk Department  
2599 Avery Avenue  
Memphis, TN 38112

tel. (901) 636-2462  
fax (901) 576-6960  
[engineering@memphistn.gov](mailto:engineering@memphistn.gov)  
[www.memphistn.gov](http://www.memphistn.gov)



# COMMON SIDEWALK CODE VIOLATIONS

Keeping the sidewalk adjacent to your property in good repair and free of obstacles is the property owner's responsibility, including any cost of the repairs or maintenance. In cases of negligence to this responsibility, the City of Memphis may be obligated to authorize a legal process by which property owners must complete the necessary repairs in accordance with city ordinances.

## Missing Sidewalks



**Solution:** Replace or Install Missing Sidewalk Panels

## Overgrown Vegetation



**Solution:** Cut Back Vegetation, Replace Sidewalk Panels

## Uneven Surfaces



**Solution:** Replace Damaged Sidewalk Panels

## Tree Damage



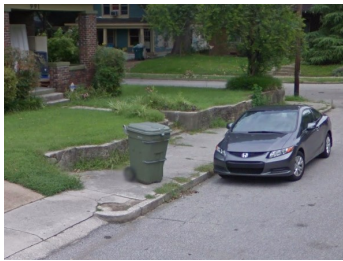
**Solution:** Replace Damaged Sidewalk Panels, Mitigation of Tree Roots or Tree Removal May Be Required

## Impassable Driveways



**Solution:** Replace Driveway with ADA Compliant Design

## Trash & Yard Debris



**Solution:** Do Not Block Sidewalk When Placing Items for Weekly Pickup, Promptly Remove Empty Receptacles

## READY TO MAKE SIDEWALK REPAIRS?

You can choose any contractor you prefer, but they must be properly bonded for concrete sidewalk work and permitted with the city to ensure proper installation. Contact the City of Memphis Division of Engineering Sidewalk Department at **(901) 636-2462** for further guidance on making sidewalk improvements.

## YOU MAY QUALIFY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE!

Residential property owners may qualify for 100% financial assistance in making repairs to their primary residence if they meet certain age, income, and physical ability criteria. Contact the City of Memphis Division of Engineering Sidewalk Department at **(901) 636-2462** to see if you qualify for this program.

## YOUR TREE MIGHT BE THE CAUSE OF THE PROBLEM, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU HAVE TO CUT IT DOWN!

Many sidewalks in older parts of the city are damaged due to the growth and maturity of trees. If you think your tree may be causing damage to your sidewalk, contact the City of Memphis Division of Engineering Sidewalk Department at **(901) 636-2462** to request a review at an upcoming meeting of the Memphis Tree Board. This group of certified arborists and tree-lovers helps the Division of Engineering in assessing creative solutions to sidewalk repairs with your tree's well-being in mind.