

ED-23-186

Petition for the Construction of Sidewalks on Division Street from 337 to 374 both East and West sides

Background:

This petition is being submitted primarily out of a concern for the safety of all who walk along our sidewalks. The genesis of this began in 2021 when I observed a pregnant woman fall in front of my house as she tripped on heaved and cracked asphalt. I reported this occurrence to the city and within a day they came and paved over several sections of my sidewalk. I was advised by Phil (City of Oshawa) that they have been aware that the street, curbs and sidewalks are deficient and need to be reconstructed but this will only be done when all facilities are ready. This past June 2023 Jamie Osmond (City of Oshawa) confirmed this is still the city's position and encouraged me to seek the assistance of our fine politicians. I wrote our mayor Carter. I received an email from Mr. Underwood (City of Oshawa) who has also been very helpful and forwarded this form to me as work is scheduled for 2027 pending councils' approval in 2026.

Rationale:

Apart from my section of sidewalk there are numerous areas of concern from 337-374 Division Street on both the east and west sides. In fact, when speaking with our neighbours as I solicited their signatures it quickly became apparent to me that all residents have been frustrated with the poor conditions of our sidewalks. Just for the mere fact that they are asphalt leaves them susceptible to heaving and cracking. I can unequivocally say that the majority of my neighbours are beyond frustrated with the state of our sidewalks. I will share with the reader some human concerns that we have; young families with little ones, at least one pregnant neighbour, a visually impaired adult and several elderly. Some comments I heard are:

- My daughter went for a tumble in front of Connie's house.
- I had my knee replacement but am still afraid to walk down the street.
- My arthritis is bad and it's just not safe for me to walk along our sidewalks.
- It's hard to keep my sidewalks free of ice because the water pools.
- I am legally blind, so it is very difficult to see the heaves and cracks.

As the reader can see, safety is the reoccurring theme.

Conclusion:

Firstly, I will say that every representative from the City of Oshawa I have been in contact with regarding this matter has been respectful, informative and professional. I am grateful for their help. I hope that the powers to be seriously consider this petition to be truthful and with merit. At an absolute minimum, we need proper concrete sidewalks to make them safe. This is the main concern from each resident I spoke with who are listed on this petition. From all of us on Division Street we thank you in advance for giving this matter your attention and genuine consideration. We are hopeful that you agree that the time is now to give us safe sidewalks.

Signed by Paul Martin, September 14, 2023, <M.F.I.P.P.A Sec. 14(1)>, Oshawa

19 Signatures received.

The original petition is available for viewing in the office of the City Clerk, Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The City of Oshawa is not accountable for the accuracy or reliability of petitions submitted.