



CITY OF
West Linn

SUMMARY OF BARRINGTON HEIGHTS DAMAGED SIDEWALKS

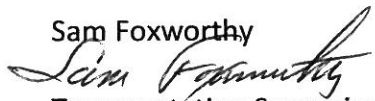
The inspection of sidewalks in Barrington Heights revealed the majority of surface displacement is caused by roots from street trees. There were 101 locations noted during the inspection, ranging from minor displacement to full depth offsets. This equates to 280 panels of sidewalk which is approximately 7,000 square feet. The cost estimate of replacement may range from \$12.00 to \$20.00 per square foot, depending on the extent of root intrusion, irrigation and landscape restoration.

There have been discussions of options to mitigate or defer future sidewalk displacements. They may include root pruning, curving around the tree, which usually has landscape restraints and a new concept being introduced is rubber mat sidewalks. This concept allows for flexibility, removal for root maintenance and accepted walk ability. The negative aspect is cost, approximately \$24.00 per square foot installed and some difficulty has been noted securing mats to the ground.

Another element of this issue is tree removal and/or replacement. To help minimize future damage a smaller caliber of tree could be planted, however this would limit the extent of the canopy effect along the street. To some extent homeowners and landscapers also play a part in the root issue. Trees naturally grow towards water and fertilizer which encourages roots to surface.

In conclusion, trees are an important element to the community and its livability, and sidewalks are key to pedestrian safety and connectivity. The City of West Linn Code currently defines sidewalk responsibilities for which the city is required to support.

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