Curbs and Sidewalks
Fact Sheet

The City of Indianapolis Department of Public Works maintains 7.5 million feet of sidewalks and 8.2 million feet of curbs throughout Marion County. Repair needs are measured on a scale of 0 to 5, with 0 representing totally deteriorated sidewalks and 5 representing a new sidewalk. Sidewalks with the worst ratings (0-2) are placed higher on the priority list. Because of the significant workload and limited funds, the repair of curbs or sidewalks in your neighborhood may take anywhere from one to five years.

DPW considers the following factors when selecting curb or sidewalk projects:

1. Providing accessibility for people with disabilities. If a disabled person is living in an area where sidewalk repairs are needed, that project will take top priority.
2. Installing curb ramps. The city seeks to provide universal access to our community’s government, social and economic institutions, as required under the Americans with Disabilities Act. We also coordinate projects with the needs of the IndyGo bus system.
3. Areas of high use. Sidewalks that serve schools, churches, shopping centers, medical facilities and other community facilities are prioritized over lower traffic areas.
4. Missing segments of sidewalk. The city will install sidewalks to connect previous projects or to be compatible with new development.
5. Geographic balance. The city seeks to balance the project workload across Marion County’s nine townships and numerous neighborhoods.
6. Economic development projects. Sidewalks and curbs are sometimes part of the city’s commitment to an economic development or neighborhood renewal project.

On a case-by-case basis, the city will consider the addition of new sidewalks where none currently exist. However, since the need is so great to repair existing sidewalks, requests for new sidewalks receive careful consideration. Again, access for the disabled is the top priority.

To request repair or replacement of a curb or sidewalk for a person with a disability, contact the Mayor’s Action Center at 327-4622 or maccenter@indygov.org.