

**DISTRICT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**

DEPARTMENTAL ORDER NO. 01-2005

SUBJECT: Revised DDOT Sidewalk Construction Policy

I. Purpose:

The purpose of this issuance is to mandate the use of a new District Department of Transportation Sidewalk Construction Policy.

DDOT's goal is to improve pedestrian access and safety for all District residents and to provide a continuous and safe sidewalk network that serves customers' multi-modal transportation needs with sensitivity to vital stakeholders' interests.

II. Overview:

Prior to 2002, communities that requested sidewalk construction were required to follow a formal petition process that included a public hearing. Sidewalk installation would commence only if a simple majority of adjacent property owners were in favor of the sidewalk. After installation of the sidewalk, DDOT assessed all adjacent property owners 50 percent of the cost of sidewalk construction. The Sidewalk and Curbing Assessment Amendment Act of 2002 removed the requirement for adjacent property owners to pay 50 percent of the cost of sidewalk construction. The elimination of the requirement for private contribution provided the opportunity for a new city-wide sidewalk construction program.

III. Authority

DDOT has authority to revise the sidewalk construction policy pursuant to Section 5(1)(B) of the Department of Transportation Establishment Act of 2002.

IV. Policy:

There shall be a sidewalk on at least one side of every street or roadway where pedestrians are legally permitted in the District of

Columbia. Priority shall be given to sidewalks that provide access to schools, parks and recreation facilities, transit stops, and locations where substantial safety risks exist.

V. Procedures:

1. DDOT shall analyze all streets in the District to establish a priority list of streets to receive sidewalk installation.
2. Priority will be given to the following areas: missing sidewalks in school areas; routes that provide access to parks and recreational facilities; transit stops; and locations where substantial safety risks exist.
3. DDOT shall construct sidewalks in these priority areas.
4. Sidewalk requests may also be made through the existing petition process.
5. Requests for sidewalks will be evaluated for compliance with the new DDOT sidewalk policy.
6. DDOT will construct sidewalks on all streets and roadways as part of roadway reconstruction projects.
7. DDOT will make every effort to minimize the negative impacts of sidewalk construction on adjacent property owners.

VI. Issuance Applicability

This Departmental issuance is to be given to each DDOT employee for his or her review based on the applicability of this policy to his or her job.

VII. Effective Date

This policy shall take effect immediately upon the execution of this Order.