



City of Detroit

COUNCILMAN SCOTT R. BENSON

MEMORANDUM

TO: Conrad Mallett, Corporation Counsel

FROM: Hon. Scott Benson, City Council District 3

CC: Hon. Gabriela Santiago-Romero, Chair, Public Health and Safety Standing Committee
Hon. Janice Winfrey, City Clerk
David Whitaker, Director, LPD
Chuck Raimi, Asst. Corporation Counsel
Boysie Jackson, CPO, OCP
Gail Fulton, City Council Liaison

VIA: Hon. Mary Sheffield, City Council President

DATE: 3 May 2022

RE: **OPINION ON RESIDENTIAL PRICING OF SIDEWALKS USING CONTRACTOR'S ECONOMIES OF SCALE**

As per our conversation regarding the use of Detroit's economies of scale for sidewalk installation, **please provide an opinion on if the City can require or incentivize, in future RFPs, that sidewalk/concrete contractors offer, at the City's cost, the opportunity for residents to pay for sidewalk installations in front of their homes.** In this scenario the sidewalk/concrete contractors will offer the installation service to residents when they are installing sidewalks within the City. This will allow residents to make the required personal investments in their homes, but at cost that has been reduced by using the City's economies of scale on concrete purchases. This will also add value to the contractors as they will see increased sales due to Detroit residents paying for new sidewalks at their personal property. A win-win for the residents, contractors, and City.

While the residents are using the City's price bonus, Detroit is not using any of its funds, grants or general, to provide sidewalks beyond what is required by law. Therefore, hopefully, not lending of its credit to private citizens. **Please provide this opinion by 25 May 2022.** If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact my office at, 313-224-1198.

srb