

John D. Miller
Burgess
Commissioners
Jennifer J. Falcinelli
Richard L. Dietrick
Christopher I. Goodman
Jean B. LaPadula
Kevin E. Stottlemeyer

Middletown
Founded in
1767



August 22, 2023

RE: SIDEWALK INSPECTION PLAN

Dear Property Owner:

Well maintained sidewalks are an important element of a safe and livable neighborhood. The Burgess and Commissioners of Middletown are concerned with pedestrian safety and the condition of some sidewalks within Town. There are approximately 53 miles of sidewalks in the Town. In addition to the general safety of pedestrians, a large portion of school children in Town are required to walk to school by FCPS. This increases the need to have safe sidewalks in Town.

The Burgess and Commissioners of Middletown have approved a Sidewalk Inspection Plan which is available for review at the Town website at www.middletown.md.us. This plan will include an inspection of all sidewalks within Town. Chapter 12.04 of the Middletown Code states, "*The owner of any parcel of land which abuts, adjoins or is adjacent to a sidewalk shall be responsible for repairing and maintaining that sidewalk and shall replace or repair any such sidewalk which is determined to constitute a hazardous condition as hereinafter defined.*" This Sidewalk Inspection Plan outlines the procedures the Burgess and Commissioners will use to educate, review, and improve existing sidewalks throughout the Town. **It is not the intent of this plan to have all sidewalks replaced in Town, but only to have the sections of hazardous sidewalk repaired.**

Starting this month and continuing through November of 2023, the Town will begin sidewalk inspections in your neighborhood. If you are interested in the standards which will be used to determine hazardous sidewalks, please visit the Town's website which has the specifications for review in determining hazardous sidewalk conditions. If your property is identified as having a portion of hazardous sidewalk, the Town will notify you in writing with an inspection report detailing the findings.

The Town recognizes the current economic climate and has changed the time allowed for replacement of hazardous sections of sidewalks from the minimum of 30 days to 1 year from the date of the inspection report. This will allow property owners that have hazardous sections of sidewalk identified to have time to budget and plan for the needed improvements. If the condition of the sidewalk constitutes an emergency and an immediate threat to the health, safety, and welfare of the public, then the town will reduce the time frame in which the repairs would be required.

The Town is also investigating group rates for repairs. When you receive your inspection report it will include group rates from a local contractor. This is a repair option, not a requirement for residents.

If you should have any questions regarding the Sidewalk Inspection Plan, please do not hesitate to contact me via e-mail at pmantello@ci.middletown.md.us or by phone at 301.371.6171.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "P. Mantello". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Paul Mantello
Town Administrator