



## Request for City Council Committee Action From the Department of Public Works

**Date:** June 7, 2011

**To:** The Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation and Public Works Committee

**Subject:** **Storm Related Sidewalk Repairs**

**Recommendation:**

- A. Direct Public Works to develop a damage estimate for public sidewalks, curb and gutter, and alley pavements damaged as a result of the May 22, 2011 tornado in North Minneapolis.
  
- B. Direct Public Works and the Finance Department to return to the Transportation & Public Works Committee with a proposal to fund those repairs without assessing abutting property owners.

**Previous Directives:**

None

**Prepared by:** Brette Hjelle, Public Works Interagency Coordinator

**Approved by:**

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Steven A. Kotke, P.E., City Engineer, Director of Public Works

**Presenters:** Michael D. Kennedy, P.E., Director of Transportation, Maintenance & Repair

**Financial Impact:**

Final action will require an increase in appropriation.

**Background/Supporting Information**

On Sunday, May 22, 2011 a tornado struck north Minneapolis resulting in considerable damage to private and public property. As was the case in the 2009 tornado response, Public Works is recommending that damaged public sidewalk and curb and gutter and street pavement and alleys be repaired without assessments to adjacent property owners.

The standard sidewalk replacement process involves inspection, condemnation, and replacement with the costs of the work being assessed to the property owner. This can include curb and gutter sections as well. Given the extraordinary circumstances caused by the tornado, it is the department's recommendation that the sidewalk and other replacement work associated with the storm not be assessed to the property owners. This type of repair work from the 2009 tornado was completely funded from General Fund reserves. Alley pavements may also have been damaged. It is recommended that this funding include expenses to make those repairs as well. Alley reconstruction is totally assessed to abutting property owners, but alley maintenance is not. This action would make it clear that it is not to be assessed.

Public Works will be assessing sidewalk and related infrastructure damage from the May 22 tornado to estimate the costs for repairs. We will work with the Finance Department to determine the best course of action to fund the repairs and return to the City Council for approval.