
TO: DMD Property Owners

FROM: Downtown Management District

SUBJECT: Trees and Sidewalks, One Block at a Time

DATE: January 10, 2005

In response to our downtown property owner's feedback, the DMD is embarking on a new and exciting project for Downtown. Called *Trees and Sidewalks, One Block at a Time*, the project is geared to partner with downtown property owners to do what we can to help you enhance your properties.

Through your investments with the DMD, the Board of Directors has made \$134,000 available for this tree planting and sidewalk replacement project which was recommended to them by the DMD's Pedestrian Improvements Committee.

We will begin to plant trees in a specific area of Downtown for Phase I of the project. Streets included in Phase I are 3 blocks of William St., 3 blocks of Coopers Alley and 100 through 300 blocks of N. Water St. Tree planting is scheduled to begin by March.

A major component of this project is the Sidewalk Partnership Grant. This grant is designed to assist you with the improvement and/or enhancement of sidewalks adjacent to your properties. The Grants will be allocated depending on need and applicant's promptness in applying for the grant. The sidewalks have been graded from A-D, according to degree of damage or need. The Sidewalk Partnership Grant will pay \$3.00 per square foot of the cost to tear-out and replace a standard concrete sidewalk. (For example: If a sidewalk costs \$6.00 per square foot to tear-out and replace with the standard, specified concrete, the Grant will cover 1/2 of that cost.) The DMD Partnership Grant will enable the property owner to collect on the grant allocation after completion of his or her sidewalk project.

Some property owners may choose to upgrade and/or make enhancements to the standard concrete sidewalk adjacent to their property. This may be a good opportunity to lay brick or pavers should you so desire. Should a property owner make this decision, the grant application will still reimburse for \$3.00 per square foot.

Enclosed, you will find an explanation of the grant process along with an application to apply for the Sidewalk Partnership Grant. Application deadline for Phase I of the Sidewalk Partnership Grant is March 15, 2005. If your application doesn't make Phase I, it will be placed in line, according to the time it was received in this office, and made available for participation in Phase II.

If you are interested in applying for the Sidewalk Partnership Grant, please do so as soon as possible, as these applications will be considered on a first-come-first-served basis. If you have any questions, please contact this office at 882-2363, and we will try to answer any questions you may have concerning the project.

TO BE COMPLETED BY
DMD OFFICE

GRANT APPLICATION # _____

SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM
APPLICATION FOR PARTICIPATION

NAME OF APPLICANT: _____
PROJECT ADDRESS: _____
CITY, STATE, ZIP _____
PHONE NUMBERS: RESIDENCE _____ OFFICE: _____

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____

ESTIMATED COST:	SQUARE FOOTAGE OF PROJECT AREA:
LABOR: \$ _____	TOTAL SQ.FT. _____
MATERIALS: \$ _____	TOTAL COST PER SQ.FT. \$ _____
TOTAL COST: \$ _____	

ARCHITECTURAL PLANS ENCLOSED? YES _____ NO _____

DMD OFFICE USE ONLY	
DMD REVIEW: _____	CITY REVIEW: _____
CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY RECEIVED: YES _____ NO _____	
CONTRACT SIGNED: _____	DATE SIGNED: _____

DMD SIDEWALK PARTNERSHIP GRANTS

Granting Agency

Corpus Christi Downtown Management District

Objectives

DMD Partnership Grants are designed to assist property owners with improvements and/or enhancements to downtown sidewalks adjacent to their properties. Grants are allocated depending on need and applicant's promptness in applying for the grant. Downtown sidewalks have been graded from A – D, according to degree of damage or need.* DMD Partnership Grant will pay \$3.00 per square foot of the cost to tear out and replace a standard specified concrete sidewalk.** The DMD Partnership Grant will enable the property owner to collect on grant allocation after completion of his/her sidewalk project and proof of project cost. DMD Partnership Grants will be issued in phases. **Phase I is now in effect**. The DMD board has approved \$68,893 for Phase I of the sidewalk grant program. When the money is depleted, the board will begin planning for Phase II.

The DMD reserves the right to reject any and/or all applications as it will deem to be in the best interest of the DMD and its projects.

Eligibility

- Applicants include all property owners within the boundaries of the DMD (Lower Broadway to T-Heads, Kinney St. to I-37). See attached map.
- Projects eligible for partnership grants are sidewalk projects only.
- Partnership grant does not include curb and gutter replacement.
- Partnership grant priority is given first, to projects that are in the worst condition and in need of repair (C-D categories) and then on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Application Deadline

Application deadline is 5:00 p.m., March 1, 2005. All applications must be postmarked March 1st or earlier and will be considered on a first-come-first serve basis. Applications received after February 11, 2005, will be considered but will be further down on the priority list for acceptance. Grants will be awarded in March and successful applicants will have one year from the time of grant approval to complete the activities. Grant reimbursement for expenses will be made following completion of the property owner's sidewalk project. If a property owner's grant application is not included in Phase I of the Sidewalk Partnership Grant program, property owner's application will be addressed in Phase II of the project.

Some property owners may choose to upgrade or make enhancements to the standard concrete sidewalks adjacent to their property. (This is a good opportunity to lay brick or pavers.) Should a property owner make this decision, the grant application will still reimburse \$3.00 per square foot and any overage for a more decorative sidewalk enhancement, will be at the property owner's expense. If a property owner decides to upgrade or enhance from the standard specified concrete sidewalk, he or she must choose from designs available in the DMD Office. The purpose for using pre-designated designs is for continuity of design, color and for overall maintenance and endurance. If a property owner should desire a design different from the designs offered by the DMD's Office, the property owner may submit the design for screening and approval by the Design Committee.

General Information

The DMD has initiated a tree-planting project along with the Sidewalk Partnership Grant project. Phase I of the tree-planting project will include planting trees of various species on approximately 30' centers in the sidewalks on the 200-500 blocks of William St., 200-400 blocks of Coopers Alley, 100 block of S. Water St. and 100-200 blocks of N. Water St. Trees will be planted, where applicable, regardless of whether or not the property owner chooses to repair or replace his or her sidewalk.

Most property owners are not aware that even though sidewalks are part the public rights-of-way, they are the responsibility of the property owner to keep in good repair. If someone falls and injures his or herself on a sidewalk that is adjacent to a property, the property owner is the first in line for litigation. This is a City ordinance and is practiced throughout the City.

Many of the Downtown sidewalks are in a state of disrepair. We encourage property owners to voluntarily repair and/or replace sidewalks adjacent to their properties and also encourage upgrade of the sidewalks. By having this grant available, every property owner can take advantage of this assistance and increase the value of his or her property. After completion of Phase I, the DMD board will begin planning for Phase II of both the sidewalk grant program and the tree-planting Downtown. The plan is to move forward with each phase until the entire District is green with trees and all sidewalks in good condition.

For more information contact the DMD Office @ (361) 882-2363, Fax (361) 884-9591 or email to urban@downtowncorpuschristi.com.

* Map of Downtown sidewalks available for viewing in the DMD Office.

** Standard City requirements for sidewalks is available in the DMD Office.