

From: [Steve Peterson](#)
To: [Eduardo Sarmiento](#)
Subject: Council Agenda Item: Sidewalk repair/replacement responsibility
Date: Monday, July 26, 2021 6:50:53 PM

To: Hermosa Beach City Council

As the owner of two properties for over forty years, I emphatically object to the city proposal as written. While I understand this is an attempt to simply codify a state regulation, the specific language needs to consider and adopt:

- a provision and process for the property owner to disagree with the determination and for that disagreement to be fairly adjudicated, say by the Public Works Commission.
- a recognition that the fixed 4 week repair timeline may be impossible to execute given contractor availability and that good faith efforts to arrange repairs should be recognized as meeting the intent of the timeline specification.
- a provision to use city staff and/or funds to aid property owners for whom arranging for and paying for such repairs is an unreasonable burden, as would be the case for some seniors or other persons of limited competence, means or resources.
- a provision that recognizes that some hazards and liabilities are outside the property owner's control, say when a parking sign is poorly installed by the city or a skateboarder runs into a parking meter in the "planting area". Another liability could be where a tree is planted in the "planting strip" and the city does not allow the property owner to remove it at will, even if it is upsetting the sidewalk.

In summary: please spend some effort foreseeing and accounting for what could be unfair or the unintended consequences in the regulation before enacting it.

Regards,
Steve Peterson
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