

# Department of Public Works

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0 266-16

## MEMO

**TO:** Public Works and Services Committee

**FROM:** Mark Yehlen, Commissioner of Public Works

**DATE:** March 29, 2016

**SUBJECT:** Request to Waive Formal Bidding Procedures and Contract with Safe Step Incorporated for Sidewalk Inspection Services and “Angled Saw-Cutting” of Sidewalk Vertical Displacements

Request that formal bidding procedures to be waived and the City be authorized to contract with Safe Step Incorporated, a franchisee of Precision Concrete Cutting, to visually inspect portions of the city’s sidewalk system to identify trip hazards as well as sections of sidewalk that should be removed/replaced or “mud-jacked”, and for the abatement of specific trip hazards on sidewalks via a proprietary “angled saw-cutting” technique to create sloped transitions meeting Americans with Disabilities Act standards.

The 2016 General Obligation Bond Debt (G.O. Debt) was increased by \$355,000 via budget amendment to accommodate funding of a total of \$380,000 in sidewalk repairs and replacements through G.O. Debt in the 2016 Capital Improvement Plan to replace the existing system of maintaining sidewalks in the right-of-way via Repair Orders issued to abutting property owners. The \$355,000 increase was arbitrarily chosen to fund a pilot program encompassing sidewalk inspections, repairs and replacements to be used to develop a long-term sidewalk maintenance program and funding strategy. Safe Step has worked with numerous municipalities in Wisconsin and Northern Illinois to develop sidewalk hazard abatement programs, inspect sidewalks, provide proprietary angled-saw cutting of vertical displacements where appropriate, and draft scopes-of-work for sidewalk replacement and mud-jacking contracts. Safe Step’s GIS based tracking and data analysis tools are uniquely suited to aiding in the development of the city’s long-term sidewalk maintenance strategy and funding needs. Their proprietary angled saw cutting equipment and operating procedures produce long-lasting repairs that perform as well as new concrete at 35% to 50% of the cost of removal/replacement. No other contractor can replicate the quality of their angled saw-cutting system.

Fiscal Note: The estimated cost of this service will not exceed \$150,000, and funding is available in the 2016 – 2025 Capital Improvement Plan, Account 45040 57515 Dpw-Sidewalks.

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