

**MOORPARK CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA REPORT**

TO: The Honorable City Council

FROM: Yugal K. Lall, City Engineer/Public Works Director 

BY: Ken Gilbert, Public Works Consultant 

DATE: April 25, 2006 (Council Meeting 05-03-06)

SUBJECT: Consider Adoption of a City Council Policy Regarding Sidewalk Inspection, Maintenance and Repair

OVERVIEW

Resolution No. 2004-2160 sets forth City Council policies pertaining to a variety of municipal operations and/or programs. From time to time it becomes necessary to revise and update those policies by adoption of a new Resolution. It is recommended below that a new City Council policy be adopted, pertaining to the subject matter, and that this new policy be included in the next update of the City Council Policy Resolution.

DISCUSSION

The coexistence of street trees and sidewalks within the public right-of-way does not come without problems. Tree roots cause sidewalk panels to lift which create potential trip hazards. As the owner of the public sidewalks, the City must maintain and repair these and other defects.

For a number of years it has been the practice of the Public Works Department to repair/replace "lifted" sidewalks with a vertical separation exceeding three-quarters of an inch ($\frac{3}{4}$ "). It has been determined that the department practice should be adopted as a City Council Policy consistent with California Joint Powers Insurance Authority (CJPIA).

It is recommended below that the City Council adopt the following Policy:

"Sidewalk Inspection, Maintenance and Repair:

1. Inspection: All public sidewalks shall be inspected at least once per year.
2. Maintenance: Public sidewalks shall be maintained in good condition.
3. Repair: Any sidewalk defect, causing a vertical separation of three-quarters of an inch (3/4") or greater, shall be repaired. Repair may include any appropriate methods as determined by the Public Works Department, including, but not limited to, grinding or sidewalk replacement. Efforts should be undertaken to remove or minimize the possibility of a reoccurrence of the problem by tree roots."

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Approve and adopt the subject policy as stated above in this report.
2. Direct the City Clerk to include this new City Council Policy in the next update of the City Council Policy Resolution.
3. Direct the City Manager to develop, establish and administer any guidelines and / or procedures deemed necessary to properly administer the implementation of this policy.