



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Ben Walsh, Mayor

**Reasons for Sidewalk Condemnation**

**Step separation** - a vertical displacement of 13 mm (0.5 in) or greater at any point on the walkway that could cause pedestrians to trip, lock up the wheels of a wheelchair, or prevent the wheels of a wheelchair from rolling smoothly.

**Badly cracked concrete** - holes and rough spots ranging from hairline cracks to indentations wider than 25 mm (1 in).

**Spalled areas** - fragments of concrete or other building material detached from larger structures; also losses of aggregate and cement leaving holes or depressions greater than 50 mm x 50 mm (2 in x 2 in) in the sidewalk.

**Settled areas that trap water** - sidewalk panels with depressions, or other indentations that cause the sidewalk path to be lower than the curb; these depressions cause silt and water to settle on the walkway path and might require replacement.

**Cross-slope** - sidewalks with a slope towards the road greater than ¼" per foot (2%) or reverse cross-slopes.

**Tree root damage** - roots from trees growing in adjacent landscaping that cause the walkway surface to buckle and crack, impeding access.

**Vegetation** - vegetation growing up through cracks in the sidewalk.

**Sidewalks of materials other than specified by the municipality** - the placement of materials other than those specified by the municipality in the construction of sidewalks. Asphalt is no longer an acceptable repair or replacement material for sidewalk in the City of Syracuse.

**Any safety issue** – a defect or hindrance in the sidewalk causing an unsafe condition that the inspector believes merits attention.