

ROSSLYN FARMS BOROUGH COUNCIL
Council Work Session
December 18, 2023

Time: The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Vice President David Robb.

Location: Rosslyn Farms Community Center, Calvert Room

Attendees: Council Vice President David Robb (2025) was present and chaired the meeting. Council members Barbara Becker (2025), Lee Griffin (2025), and Jay Lear (2023) were in attendance. Mayor Isabel Ford (2025) was present. Also present were Jamie Harshman and Liam Dennis from Harshman, LLC.

Regrets: Steve Tassaro (2023), Jonathan Glance (2025), Chad Green (2023)

Materials: A sign-in sheet and agenda were provided to those in attendance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PUBLIC FORUM

There was no one present for public forum.

DISCUSSION OF BOROUGH-LED SIDEWALK REPAIR PROJECT

- This project is intended to be initiated before March 31, 2024 when the new ordinance goes into effect.
- There would be three options for residents under the eventual plan:
 1. Agree to borough plan and contractor; reimburse borough for repairs
 2. Residents repair on their own with their own contractor
 3. Do nothing (and then be penalized under the code when it goes into effect).
- There are two active grant applications related to new sidewalks (focused on getting to the park and missing segments) – this ‘borough-led initiative’ is intended to fix existing sidewalks, equitably, before that goes into effect.
- Short-term project considerations, and engineering are not included in the costs presented today.
- The proposal does not take into consideration anything that may be part of the grant.
- Vertical difference maximum should be up to ¼ inch per ADA (our ordinance is a half inch) – we agreed we should keep to our existing ordinance for now – the engineers will re-evaluate all of their recommendations for repairing or replacing based on this variation.
- If we have agreement and initiate a restoration plan, we will not need to enforce the new code while any work is underway and planned for completion
- There are no formal requirements for how far back we can grind sidewalks (vs. replace).
- We decided not to include Edgecliff due to limitations with width of road and our ability to do any sidewalks there within the ordinance.

- Engineer will investigate slap jacking for some of the repairs. This is not part of initial proposal.
- Council agrees that when we come up with the final ‘plan’ we should position it as a one-time offer based on implementation of new ordinance and also provide residents with general guiding principles related to why we are focused on sidewalks and how it fits in with connectivity and park plan.

Next Steps

- The engineers will take another look at the map aligned to all of the specifications in our approved ordinance.
- They will also add depiction of trees and where this may be causing heaving so we can provide guidance on this to residents when we proceed.
- Continue to discuss open questions – how we manage tree removal and formal point of view on trees AND whether or not we split cost for corner lots (there was general agreement by council that we should split the cost of sidewalks in corner lots)
- Engineers to come back with new report and recommendations.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Becker made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:01 PM, which was seconded by Mr. Lear. The motion carried.