

Town of Plainville
Press Release
May 7, 2021

Plainville Performs Assessments of Sidewalks in Town

The Town of Plainville recently completed a sidewalk condition assessment on 64 miles of walkways in Town. Late last year the Town Council authorized a contract with **StreetScan** to utilize **ScanCarts** to conduct the sidewalk assessments. These carts were outfitted with 2D and 3D cameras.

Once this information was collected, StreetScan developed a “Sidewalk Condition Index (SCI)” which ranked the overall health of the sidewalk segments on a scale of 0 (worst) to 100 (best). The SCI considers tripping hazards, surface distortions, uplift, and cracks. There are seven levels in the sidewalk condition index ranging from Excellent to Failed. The good news is that the average SCI of all the sidewalks in Plainville is 81. That score means that most of the 64 miles of sidewalk are considered “good”. The bad news is that 2.61 miles of sidewalk are rated in “serious” or “very poor” condition.

The program also provides cost estimates to fix the sidewalks. This is very helpful when putting together the annual Capital Improvement Plan or when applying for available grants.

At a recent Town Council meeting, Town staff gave a demonstration of the new program. Chairwoman Katherine Pugliese remarked that “this is a very useful tool that will make it easier to prioritize which sidewalks need to be addressed first. It also gives the Town Council the ability to view the condition of sidewalks remotely with our computers.”

Now that this project has been completed, the Town Council expressed their support for a systematic replacement of those sidewalks with low SCI scores. “This may take several years, but it’s a start and a commitment that it is time to devote some resources to these valuable assets that allow for our residents to safely walk throughout Plainville”, remarked Chair Pugliese.

This summer the Town will be replacing sidewalks on Laurel Court and a portion of Tomlinson Ave. near the High School. Next year the focus will begin in the Northwest section of town where there are many streets that have a low sidewalk condition index number.

For more information on the StreetScan Program, including a map of the existing sidewalks with their sidewalk condition index, please go the Town website at plainvillect.com under News on the homepage. Questions regarding sidewalks can be directed to the Town Manager’s Office at 860-793-0221 Ext. 8701.