

Staff Report
CRESCENT STREET, RIDGEWOOD AVENUE AND
SUMMIT AVENUE AREA SIDEWALK
May 11, 2010

On February 9, 2010, City Council directed staff to meet with this neighborhood to discuss solutions on infill of sidewalk in the Crescent Street, Ridgewood Avenue and Summit Avenue area. This meeting was held on April 26, 2010, and all property owners within this area were invited to attend. It was emphasized that no action has been mandated at this time.

The following three options were discussed with those in attendance:

Under **Option 1**, sidewalk would be installed in limited locations to provide a continuous connection throughout the area. This could be accomplished by placing sidewalk on the City owned portion of land between Summit Avenue and Ridgewood Avenue, installing a crosswalk to the west side of Summit Avenue, and placing sidewalk on portions of two private properties to connect to the existing sidewalk going north (see Figure 1). This option would provide sidewalk along Summit Avenue on at least one side for the entire length. As part of this option, the City would need to relocate a stop sign and stop bar slightly farther to the south to allow pedestrians to cross in front of stopped vehicles. This would not create any additional safety issues, since the sight distance at this intersection would remain unchanged (see Figure 2).

The estimated cost of this option is \$16,750, including engineering and administration. This option would not include any costs for the stop sign or stop bar as that can be accomplished with City staff, and staff would also paint a crosswalk at this location. The location of the sidewalk on the City-owned property means that the City would be responsible for the cost of maintaining sidewalks in that location.

The costs of this option directly affect only two private properties. The breakdown of costs is shown below.

City Portion	\$ 13,780
1517 Summit Avenue	\$ 920
1523 Summit Avenue	\$ 2,050

There is a possibility of using Community Block Develop Grant (CDBG) funding if the private property owners at 1517 and 1523 Summit Avenue meet certain income guidelines. If they qualify, this could be used to offset or reduce their cost of installation.

Under **Option 2**, sidewalks would be installed in accordance with the original sidewalk request from Mark Goodale, a resident on Summit Avenue. As shown on Figure 3, completing the missing segments of sidewalk on both sides of Summit Avenue **only** would have an estimated cost of \$25,760.

Option 3, as shown on Figure 4, entails completing the missing segments of sidewalk on both sides of **all** streets in this neighborhood. This project has an estimated cost of \$60,670.

ATTENDEES' COMMENTS:

City staff met with the residents who attended the meeting and held a conversation about their preferences on infill of sidewalk in the area. After discussing the project with those who attended, they agreed that their preferred solution is that the City incurs all costs to install all missing sidewalk in the area (Option 3). This would include installing sidewalk along Crescent Street, Summit Avenue and Ridgewood Avenue, but would not include sidewalk on the north side of 13th Street. Several participants said that if the City did not cover the costs of sidewalk installation, it would be a financial burden to them.

If the City is unwilling to financially cover the full cost of sidewalk installation, the residents preferred that the City only install sidewalk to provide a continuous connection through the area (Option 1). It was discussed that if the City went ahead with an assessment project, property owners would like enough time to explore installing the sidewalks on their own and/or selling their properties.

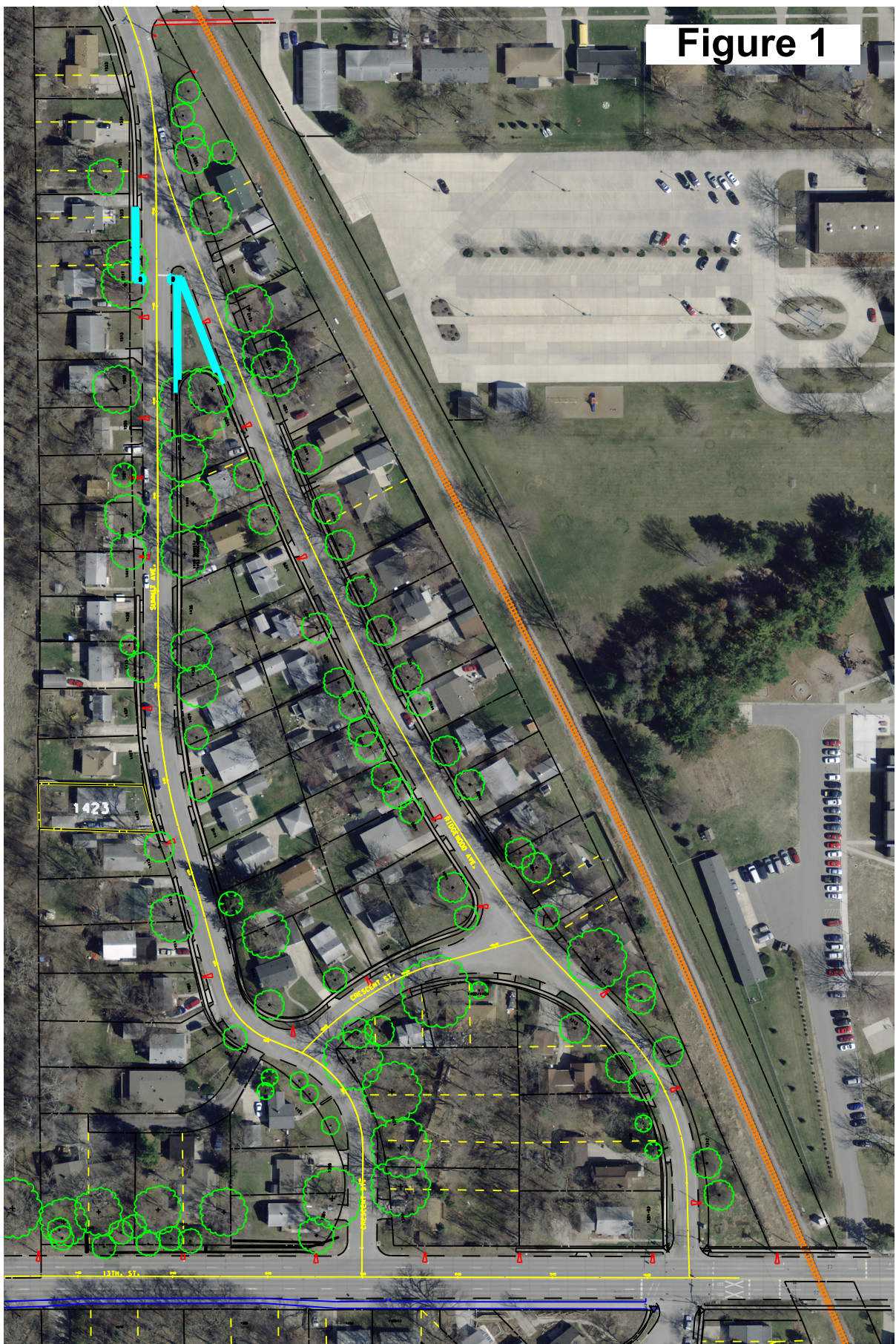
All attending residents agreed that if the City would pay the full costs associated with the sidewalk installation, they would have no issue maintaining the installed sidewalks. However, they did raise a concern that some properties are owned by people who may have trouble maintaining the sidewalks due to existing health conditions. They also expressed a desire for the City to look at traffic calming options on Summit Avenue.

STAFF COMMENTS:

The Pedestrian Walkway Program was first introduced in the City's 2002/03 Capital Improvements Plan (CIP). After significant negative input from community members, that program was eliminated from the CIP until the program could be better defined through public input. An ad hoc Pedestrian Walkway Advisory Committee was subsequently formed, and recommendations for the program were made by this committee. The revised Pedestrian Walkway Program then prioritized sidewalk locations **only** along arterial routes that coincided with the Safe Routes to School plans. This program was funded from the Local Option Sales Tax fund.

Council should note that paying for infill of sidewalk adjacent to private property that is **not** located along arterial streets that coincide with the Safe Routes to School plans would contradict the Council's current policy. If it desires to consider this alternative, Council should also consider the impacts on other neighborhoods that have the potential for infill of sidewalk. This could be accomplished by looking at redefining the criteria used for the Pedestrian Walkway Program and identifying sources of funding.

Figure 1



LEGEND

- PROPOSED WALK
- EXISTING WALK
- SHARED USE PATH

SUMMIT/CRESCENT/RIDGEWOOD
SIDEWALK INFILL



Figure 2



Summit Avenue Looking North

Figure 3



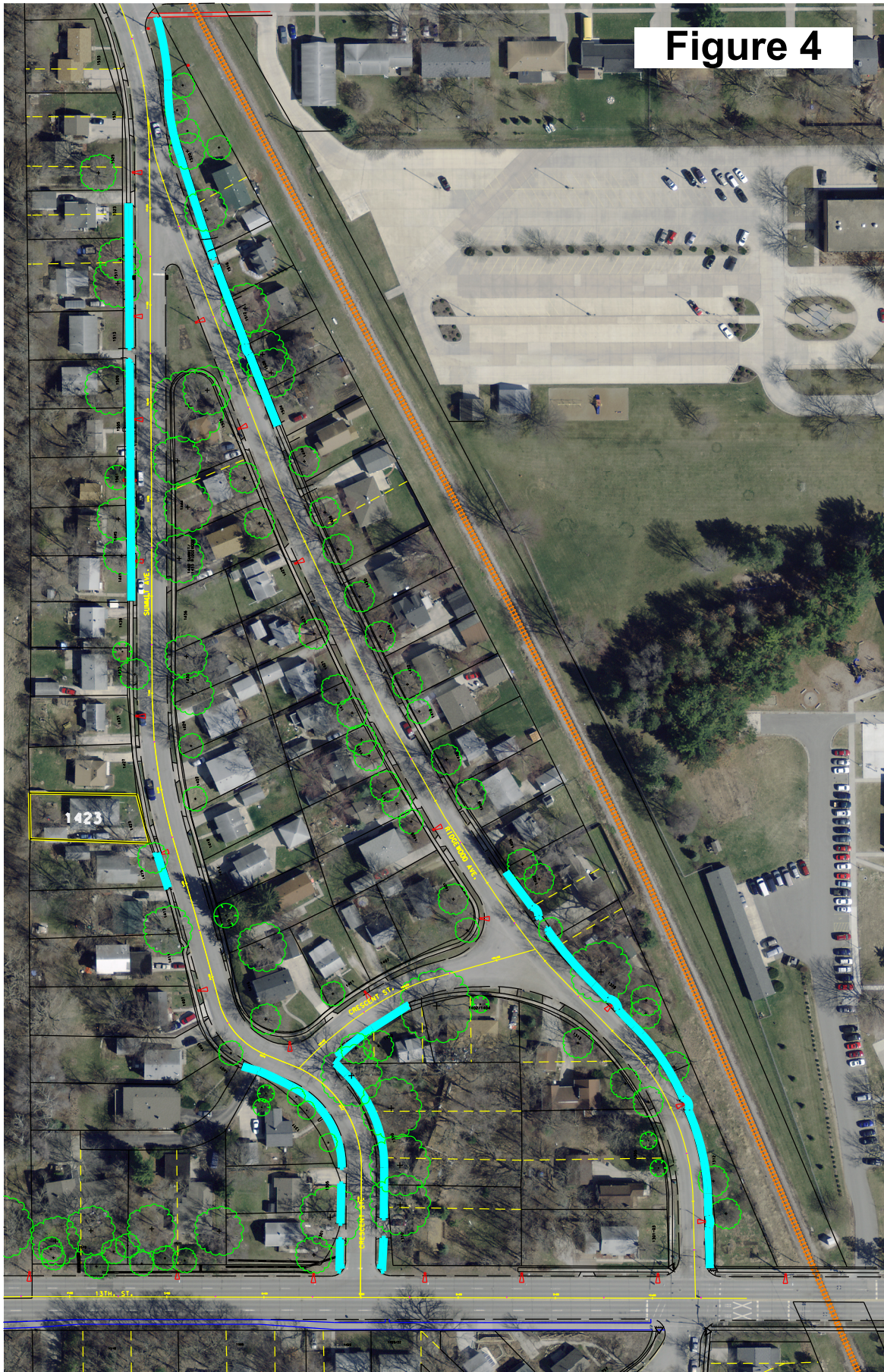
LEGEND

- PROPOSED WALK
- EXISTING WALK
- SHARED USE PATH

SUMMIT/CRESCENT/RIDGEWOOD
SIDEWALK INFILL



Figure 4



LEGEND

- PROPOSED WALK
- EXISTING WALK
- SHARED USE PATH

SUMMIT/CRESCENT/RIDGEWOOD
SIDEWALK INFILL

