

There have been several inquiries regarding the 2016 sidewalk replacement program and why customers have not been sent final bills.

First, a bit of history:

The 2016 sidewalk replacement was much larger than the prior year's – almost twice as many properties affected

The final files from the engineering firm were not available to review and process in time for the 2016 winter tax roll.

The review process involves making sure that the address and parcel numbers were correct and comparison to the original estimates and clarification of any significant differences.

It was decided not to overlap the summer tax bills with the sidewalk assessment information because the summer tax billing is much larger than the winter bill.

There has been some misinformation that has circulated that should be corrected:

The only notices sent out to property owners were the preliminary cost estimates prior to the work being performed.

The only bills that have been prepared are those for properties that changed ownership

The bills were prepared for payment at property closings

No other bills have been sent to property owners

What we are doing:

In early September, after the summer tax due date, we will send out notices to all properties with special assessments.

Property owners will have the option to pay the balance in full with no interest charges

OR

Spread the assessment over the next 4 winter tax bills at 3% interest, the details of the options will be included in the notices.

Property owners will have until the end of October to make their decision.

Mark Knapp
Finance Director/Treasurer