



Paul St. Cyr
DPW Commissioner

MEMORANDUM

TO: Thomas A. Golden Jr., City Manager

FROM: Paul St. Cyr, Commissioner

DATE: July 23, 2024

SUBJECT: MOTION RESPONSE – C. Gitschier - Req. City Mgr. Have The Proper Department Repair Or Replace The Section Of Sidewalk On Stevens Street From Albert Street To Chelmsford Street

As part of the ongoing efforts to improve roadway and sidewalk infrastructure across the city, the sidewalk between the limits described in the motion were identified and made part of this year's improvement plan. Part of this plan included the need to remove five trees that have encroached into the public way, heaving what was once a city sidewalk. Phase One of this plan included following the same city practice employed for other sidewalks needing repair/replacement. The city has moved forward with the tree hearing process and now, with the trees removed, has scheduled the repair/replacement of the sidewalk on that side of Stevens Street. Please note the text of the issues with the problem trees that were submitted for Planning Board approval as described below:

“The City of Lowell proposes the removal of five trees located at 834 Stevens St.

- 1 – Maple tree (approximately 15” dbh) located at 834 Stevens St. (Northernmost)
- 1 – Maple tree (approximately 18” dbh) located at 834 Stevens St.
- 1 – Maple tree (approximately 24” dbh) located at 834 Stevens St.
- 1 – Maple tree (approximately 15” dbh) located at 834 Stevens St.
- 1 – Maple tree (approximately 18” dbh) located at 834 Stevens St. (Southernmost)

The overgrown root systems lifting and damaging the existing asphalt sidewalk create a significant tripping hazard in addition to an already non-ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) complaint sidewalk.

According to nearby residents, the overgrown root systems have made the sidewalk almost inaccessible. The removal of these five trees is necessary to provide the public with access to the sidewalks and allow for proper maintenance of the sidewalk during the winter months.”



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Figure 1: 834 Stevens St Proposed Tree Removal

The repair/replacement of the sidewalks along this portion of Stevens Street has been coordinated with the city's contractor to be completed while they are mobilized in this part of the city. The work will be completed before summer's end.