

CITYOF DONALD

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October 4, 2018

This is an invitation to join the Donald Beautification Group (DBG) meeting on Monday, October 8 at 6:30 p.m. at Donald City Hall to discuss sidewalk design and construction on Main Street. This invitation was hand-delivered on October 3, 2018 to the doors on Main Street between Butteville Road to the railroad track. However, everyone is always invited to join the DBG membership.

Background:

- Marion County is the governing authority for Main Street and the City is the jurisdiction for road authority/sidewalk design.
- For many years, residents have complained about the deteriorating condition of sidewalks throughout Donald, especially downtown (although some of the sidewalks are in good condition).
- The Donald Mayor and City Council were awarded an ODOT grant to pay for the installation of ADA curbs in the downtown corridor of Donald.
- The Donald Mayor and City Council initiated a downtown sidewalk project, spearheaded by the City Manager with input on design from the Donald Beautification Group.
- The Donald Budget Committee has earmarked seed-money for three years to save up for this large-scale project's expense.
- The County is absorbing the cost of the engineering, bidding and construction management. The City is fronting the money for sidewalk construction but property owners will be billed the expense. The cost estimates are included in this packet, broken down for each property. Payment plans will be available.
- If this project is successful then Marion County would like to replicate it with other small cities. Also, the City will recoup the seed-money and be able to pick another section in the City to improve and construct sidewalks. (Perhaps the east side of Main Street).
- Sidewalk improvements can trigger Marion County to make improvements to Main Street, such as grinding the road, which can help with drainage.
- If you feel the price is too high, you are welcome to do the work but it must be done by March 2019. The sidewalk must be constructed according to City Public Works Standards and you must secure permitting with the City of Donald prior to construction.
- If your property is in black and white on the maps your expenses are not yet calculated by the Engineer but your project is considered a critical sidewalk for construction and is included in the total cost. You should attend the meeting because your sidewalk is slated for construction and ultimately the property owner is responsible for the construction costs.

- At this time, the City has a limited budget and properties that are in color were not built into the total cost estimate. Property owners can take advantage of this program and choose to pay the amount on the last page by March 2019 to be included.
- The City Council and Budget Committee will decide about using public funds for construction of the sidewalks at the public locations on Main Street.

This project is in the preliminary stages of planning and there are a lot of questions around budget and design. If you are interested in helping or have questions please come to the meeting on Monday night. I am available at City Hall but I encourage you to be involved and attend the design meeting. No decisions have been made and it is a collaborative project.

Thank you, Heidi Bell, City Manager