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[MPC Comment] MPC Commission Meeting December 2017, Agenda Item #64
Sidewalk Policy-12-D-17-OB

1 message

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The MPC Staff is proposing a one-year postponement to the Knoxville-Knox County Subdivision Regulations' new Section 3-05 A.2, passed during the October 2017 meeting, requiring sidewalks in all new Knox County subdivisions. The subdivision regulations were under consideration for a year and a half. Some form of requirement for sidewalks was included in the proposals for the subdivision regulations for this entire period. In the end the MPC voted to require sidewalks in all new Knox County subdivisions. MPC's decision about sidewalks not about an overall sidewalk plan for Knox County. It is solely a decision to require sidewalks in new subdivisions.

While the MPC Executive Director's memorandum states the delay reflects an administrative need to develop design and construction standards for sidewalks in new subdivisions, the delay of another year only enables subdivision developers to avoid providing needed sidewalks. All of the administrative matters discussed in the MPC Executive Director's memorandum were discussed in meetings over the year and a half period the subdivision regulations were under consideration, and an additional year would total two and one-half years of such discussions.

MPC has required sidewalks in any number of new subdivisions over the past years and the Knox County Engineering Department has dealt with the engineering issues involving sidewalk construction in those new subdivisions. If Knox County sidewalk engineering standards need improvement, the standards can be improved as part of the process of Knox county's review of the design plans for new subdivisions. There is no reason to allow new Knox County subdivisions to be built in 2018 without sidewalks.

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This message was directed to commission@knoxmpc.org