

Councilwoman Gross's Legislation FAQs: Sidewalk Damage Claims and Compensation

A brief resource guide to help understand new legislation passed by Pittsburgh's City-Council

What is it?

A city ordinance amending the Pittsburgh City Code in order to provide increased compensation to residents submitting claims for repairing sidewalks (must be adjoining or adjacent to property) damaged by city tree roots.

When was it introduced?

The ordinance was introduced by City Council on December 9, 2014, was passed on December 22, 2014, and signed into law by Mayor Peduto on January 8, 2015.

How does it change the code?

Pittsburgh residents will continue to be able to file claims with the city to cover the cost of sidewalk repairs when damaged by city trees. The city will continue to verify claims. Now, however, the compensation rate will be \$8.00 per square foot opposed to \$4.00 per square foot. Also, the City Solicitor now has the ability to adjust the maximum amount according to the [Consumer Price Index](#) every four years.

How do I file a claim?

Claims are filed by mail to the [Law Department](#). The sidewalk reimbursement forms can be found [here](#). Completed claims should be mailed to address specified on the forms page.

Have more questions?

Find a recent news article about the legislation [here](#) and access the legislation in its entirety [here](#).

Provide Feedback

We always encourage our residents to share their thoughts, questions, and opinions on upcoming legislation. Always feel free to contact us.

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