12ᵗʰ St Sidewalk Project - Question & Answer

Why is sidewalk being installed at this time?

- Many people east of 8ᵗʰ St utilize 12ᵗʰ St and the surrounding streets to navigate to businesses, stores, etc. that are parallel to the 8ᵗʰ St corridor in vehicles and on foot. 12ᵗʰ St creates a connection between the stores and the homes of people that live in the residential and multi-family area south and east of this project area.
- There have been numerous occasions where city staff and residents have seen pedestrians in the street trying to navigate parked vehicles, snow piles, moving vehicles, etc.

Why is sidewalk proposed to be installed on this side of the street?

- There are many reasons why sidewalk should actually be installed on both sides of the street; however, more sidewalks require more money to install and more money to maintain, and at this time sidewalk on one side of the street will still provide a large benefit to this area of the city.

These streets are not very busy, why can't people just walk in the street?

- It may seem to be an appropriate and cost effective solution for people to just walk in the street; however, many users desire to have a safe, stable and clean surface to walk on, separated from vehicle and bike traffic, especially for children and those that utilize wheel chairs or need assistance with a cane or walker. Sidewalk enables people to move safely.

Why does the City charge special assessments for sidewalk?

- Ch. 6 of the City's ordinance requires that sidewalk costs be assessed to abutting property owners. This ordinance has been in effect for decades.
- By City ordinance, the sidewalk should likely have been installed along 12ᵗʰ St many years ago due to the following reasons:
  - When properties were constructed, i.e. multi-family, commercial, and institutional properties
  - initial street construction or reconstruction due to traffic volumes in excess of 1000 vehicles per day
  - public safety and welfare