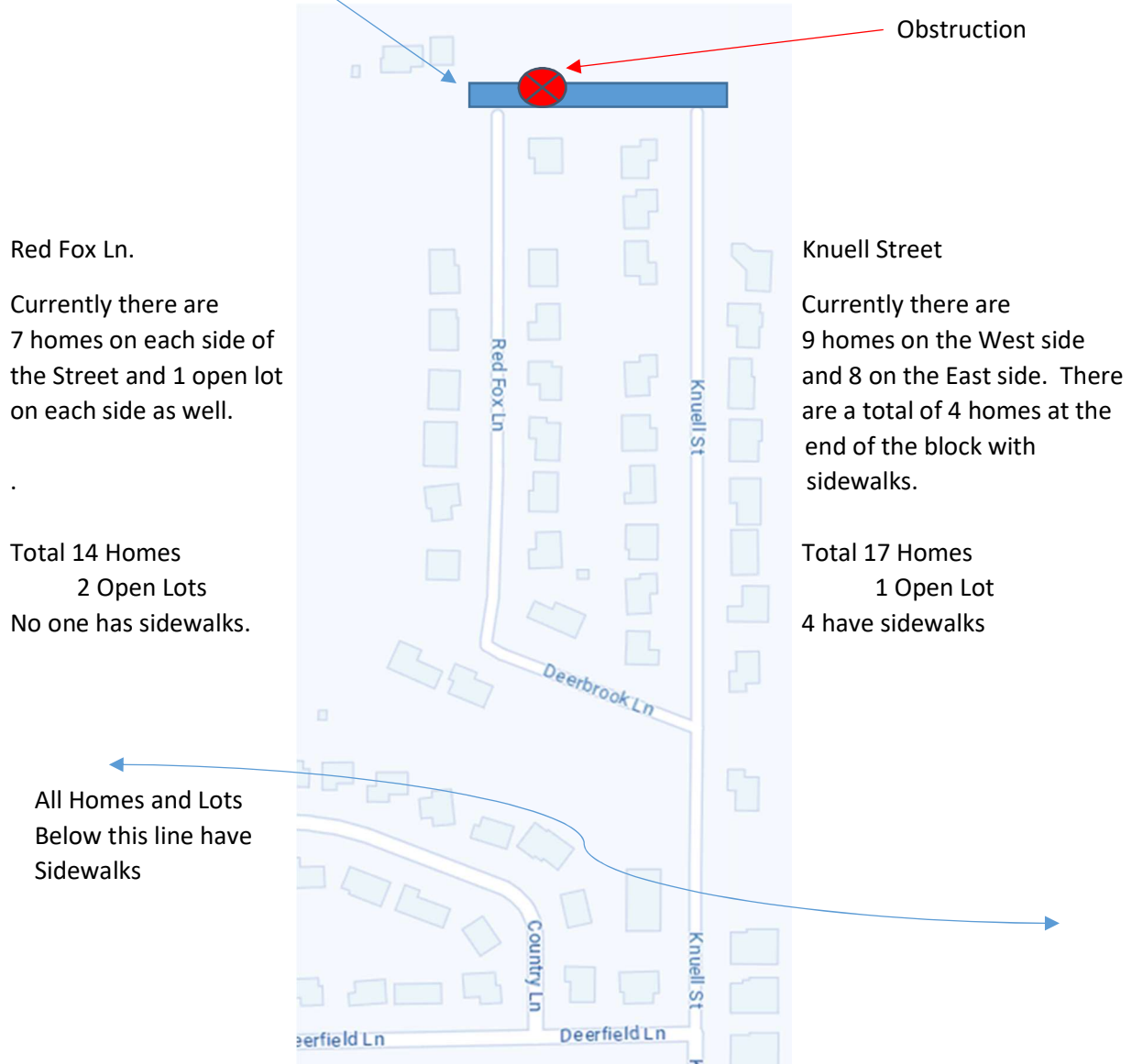


Not to Scale:

Homestead Rd.. City right-of-way, No road constructed as of 6/13/2023

(Diagram from Google Maps)



1. I have received a call from a neighbor wanting to know when sidewalks will be put in?
2. Received a number of complaints about the obstruction on City right-of-way on Homestead Rd. although the Street isn't complete.

News for Royal Oaks Subdivision #3 – Red Fox Ln / Deerbrook Ln / Knuell Street

The week starting Monday June 12th was a busy week for me fielding phone calls and emails regarding two items that affect the Royal Oaks Subdivision #3, bounded by Red Fox Ln, Deerbrook Ln and the far north end portion of Knuell Street.

The first item that came up regarded sidewalks. The part of Knuell Street from Deerbrook Ln. north to where Homestead will be constructed, and including Red Fox Ln and Deerbrook Ln. Red Fox and Deerbrook currently have no sidewalks. The part of Knuell Street in question has 17 homes and 2 open lots. Four (4) of which have sidewalks. The question posed was when are the sidewalks going to be completed? Here's how the City approaches sidewalks.

When a neighborhood development begins, the developer signs a Public Works Petition with the City that allows the City to install all the necessary improvements including sidewalks. The cost of the sidewalk is billed back to the property owner through a Special Assessment. That's provided the developer or individual property owners haven't already installed them. When the development area has been sufficiently built up and sidewalks weren't installed by the builder or property owners, the City, usually through notification by someone in that area, contacts the City wanting to know when sidewalks will be installed. When that happens, the City first starts the process. What's the process?

As sidewalks are classified as a capital asset, this request will first go before the City's Infrastructure Standing Committee. If a favorable outcome happens at the Committee level, it then goes to the City's Capital Allocation Working Group (CAWG). A seven member staff committee appointed by the mayor, confirmed by the City Council. Six members who positions give them a working knowledge and inter-relationships with all the City Departments. The CAWG group lists and ranks all of the Committees and Departments request leading up to budget time. Each request is scored based upon a system that takes into account many factors. After scoring and ranking, the prioritized list then goes to the Mayor. The Mayor has the ability to add, delete, or move items around. The list is then incorporated into the proposed budget. The Finance Committee reviews the Mayors budget and may add, delete or move items around as well. This then goes to the full City Council for final approval and adoption. At this level, there still could be some last minute adjustments prior to adoption.

Once the budget is adopted, the City, with few exceptions, will borrow money either through a Note or a Bond for those items at the appropriate time. In the past, sidewalk installation has been one of these items.

So now that you know how this works, the question you may have is, when will this happen? Since this years' budget (2023) doesn't include sidewalks for this area, it won't be happening this

year. It almost certainly won't be happening next year either. That's because what is known at this time it would not rank high enough on the priority listing for the 2024 budget. From what I've been told, most likely it could find its way into the 2025 budget.

When sidewalks do make it all the way through the process, each home owner will be notified who hasn't already installed a sidewalk. You will be given a set time to have installed your own sidewalk according to the City's specifications or have hired an approved contractor and have it installed by the deadline. Sidewalks not completed by the time listed in the letter will then be installed by the City or the City's contractor. You will then be sent a Sidewalk Special Assessment Bill. The Sidewalk Assessment Bill will be put on your Property Tax Bill if you elect the 5 year payment plan. Selecting the payment plan option comes with it an interest charge. The interest rate is set annually by the Board of Public Works and in the past has been Prime Plus.

The second item, obstruction of the City's right-of-way on the undeveloped Homestead Road. The property owner that created the obstruction was notified by the City by letter and had been given 30 days to correct the problem. The property owner contacted the City and wanted a chance to address this with the City's Infrastructure Committee. The Chair of that Committee had already cancelled the July meeting for lack of enough items to make the meeting meaningful. As the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Infrastructure Committee isn't until August 2, the property owner has been given a reprieve on correcting the problem until after the Committee hears their position. So on August 2, 5:30 PM the Infrastructure Committee will be hearing from them in the City Council Chambers. At that time the Committee will decide what the outcome of this situation will be. Do nothing, uphold the 30 day correction notice (which would most likely mean 30 days from the new August 2nd date, that being September 1) , or have them make the correction after the growing season and perhaps give them to November or some other date to have made the correction. If you feel strongly one way or the other, please let me know as your representative who also sits on this Committee so that I can vote the wishes of our district.

Please email: treckelberg@manitowoc.org or contact me via phone at (920) 973-6365 with any questions, concerns, or comments regarding this, or any other items regarding City business.

Thanks,

Todd Reckelberg
District 10 Alder
1914 Sharon Ln.
Manitowoc, WI 54220

Email: treckelberg@manitowoc.org
Phone: (920) 973-6365