

DISCUSSION OF
TOWNSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES
OF TOWNSHIP TREES
AND
SIDEWALKS

TREE RESPONSIBILLITY BY ORDINANCE

§ 263-9. Street trees

- Maintenance of street trees. The cost and expenses of planting, pruning, maintaining, fertilizing, protecting and caring for street trees shall be borne by the Township unless the Township determines that a property owner is responsible.

BACKGROUND

- SHADE TREE RECOMMENDED IN THEIR 2019 BUDGET PROPOSAL THAT THE TOWNSHIP INVEST OVER \$1M TOWARDS TREE MAINTENANCE AND PLANTING.
- THE ADMINISTRATION ADVISED THE BOARD DURING THE 2019 BUDGET PRESENTATION, WITH THE INPUT AND ADVICE FROM THE TOWNSHIP ARBORIST THAT WE ARE 25-30 YEARS BEHIND IN MAINTENANCE AND REPLANTING OF TREES THROUGHOUT RADNOR.
- THE ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDED INVESTING \$2-3M PER YEAR FOR THE NEXT 25 YEARS TO GET CAUGHT UP IN THE MAINTENANCE AND REPLANTING OF TREES THROUGHOUT THE TOWNSHIP.

SIDEWALKS

- THERE ARE NUMEROUS SIDEWALKS THROUGHOUT THE TOWNSHIP WHICH HAVE BEEN BROKEN OR DAMAGED DUE TO THE TOWNSHIP TREES IN THE RIGHT-OF-WAY AS DEFINED UNDER § 263-9. *Street trees.*
- OVER THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS WE HAVE BEGUN THE PROCESS OF REPAIRING SIDEWALKS THAT HAVE BEEN DAMAGED BY TOWNSHIP TREES BUT HAVE NOT BUDGETED ENOUGH TO MAKE AN IMPACT.

OPTIONS

- INCREASE FUNDING FOR TREE MAINTENANCE, REPLANTING AND SIDEWALK REPAIR IN RANGE OF \$3M PER YEAR.
- REPEAL § 263-9. Street trees RETURNING THE RESPONSIBILITY BACK TO THE PROPERTY OWNER FROM THE BACK OF CURB INWARD TO THE PROPERTY.
 - This would eliminate the bulk of the \$3M per year for the maintenance of street trees.
 - However, there still needs to be a significant funding towards Township trees residing in our parks, open space and parcels of land owned by Radnor Township.