handicap ramps at locations where sidewalks intersect curbs to provide access for handicapped persons. The property owner will not be charged for the construction of these handicap ramps.

2.14 PARKING DURING CONSTRUCTION

If the sidewalk portion of your driveway is removed, it is important that vehicles are not driven over the newly poured portion of the driveway for at least a week after the concrete is poured. Barricades will be placed around the new concrete and should remain in place during that week. Driving over newly poured concrete before the concrete has cured properly could cause damage to the new walk blocks. Damage from this cause is the responsibility of the property owner and could be cause for replacing the new but damaged blocks. If the access to your parking area is cut off by the construction, you will be allowed to park on the street in areas where parking is allowed until access is restored.

2.15 EXCEPTIONS

Where there are exceptions to the specifications in this document, the decision of the City Engineer will govern. For example, there are walks with pitch greater than allowed in these specifications that were designed that way because the ground elevations or because narrowness of the walk/grass plot area made it necessary. Walks with less than the standard 4 foot width may be allowed where circumstances dictate at the discretion of the City Engineer. As a general rule, sidewalks that are more than 50% out of compliance with the applicable codes may be ordered replaced in their entirety. Sidewalks that are less than 50% out of compliance shall be allowed to have the out of compliance sections remain if they are otherwise in good condition.

3 PUBLIC SIDEWALK - REPAIR/REPLACEMENT CRITERIA

In general, any sidewalk defects that could be considered a hazard to the public shall be considered as a basis for requiring repair or replacement of a sidewalk or a part thereof. This rule shall apply regardless of the walks specifications that follow.

As a guide, the following is a list of criteria that can be used to determine which sidewalk slabs require repair or replacement.

3.1 VERTICALLY MISALIGNED SLABS

Walks will be required to be repaired or replaced-

3.1.1 Where there is differential settlement or heaving at walk joints of three quarters of an inch (3/4") or more at any point along the crack or joint.

3.1.2 Where the sidewalk has heaved three quarters of an inch (3/4") or more from the existing grade of the adjacent, non-defective sidewalk slab in a distance of 2.5 feet.

3.1.3 Where the sidewalk is depressed three quarters of an inch (3/4") or more from the existing grade of the adjacent, non-defective sidewalk slab in a distance of 2.5 feet.

3.1.4 Where the sidewalk ponds water or is backpitched (drains toward house). Zero pitch is allowable.

3.2 HEAVED OR SETTLED WALK

Walks will be required to be repaired or replaced-

3.2.1 Where a settled sidewalk has one and one-half inches (1-1/2") or more settlement over a ten foot (10') span. The depth of settlement will be determined as follows: measure parallel to the street between adjacent unsettled walk sections and down to the lowest point of the settled walk.

3.2.2 Settled sidewalk may not be considered a problem if there is drainage out of the settled area. Sediment collection on the settled walk may indicate poor drainage.

3.3 CRACKED SLABS

Walks will be required to be repaired or replaced-

3.3.1 Where crack(s) which have resulted in a difference of elevation of three quarters inch (3/4") or greater.

3.3.2 Where there is more than one crack in a slab.

3.3.3 Where the sidewalk is cracked and the crack(s) have horizontal separations equal to one quarter of an inch (1/4") or more.

3.3.4 Where the sidewalk is cracked and such cracking has resulted in or has the potential to result in breaking out and/or settling.

3.4 SPALLED SLABS

3.4.1 Loose or spalled sidewalks are defined as walks that have a surface with irregularities greater than one-half inch (1/2") in depth relative to the sidewalk surface.

3.4.2 A sidewalk slab has spalled over fifty percent (50%) of its surface will be replaced.

3.5 LATERAL DISPLACMENT

3.5.1 Where the sidewalk has a lateral horizontal offset of two inches (2") or more between pieces or slabs, i.e., the sidewalk slabs are offset left to right, the slabs shall be replaced.

3.6 PIECES OR SECTIONS MISSING

3.6.2 Where a sidewalk slab has a piece or pieces missing to the extent it could be considered a hazard, it will be replaced.

3.6.2 This is not an implicit requirement to order construction of sidewalk along frontage that, in general, does not have sidewalk.

3.7 WRONG SLOPE

The correct slope for all sidewalk slabs is one-quarter inch (1/4") per foot from the back of walk towards the street.

3.7.1 A sidewalk slab that slopes more than one inch (1") per foot in any direction will be replaced.

3.7.2 Where walk elevations have over the years become warped due to settling, heaving or individual replacements, it may be necessary to remove a "good" slab in order to save a number of warped slabs and obtain proper drainage.

3.7.3 Walk that is back pitched – slopes away from street – will be replaced.

3.8 EXCESS JOINT WIDTH

Walks having open walk joints of three quarters of an inch (3/4") or more at any location for full width of the walk will be replaced.

3.9 ONE SLAB BETWEEN TWO DEFECTIVE SLABS

If one sidewalk slab in good condition is located between one or more slabs to be removed on each side, the good slab will be removed. This does not apply if the good slab abuts other structures such as steps, service walks and carriage walks. Inspection judgment will determine extent of repairs in such areas.

3.10 TWO SLABS WITH TWO TO BE REPLACED ON ONE SIDE AND ONE OR MORE ON OTHER SIDE

Shall be treated the same as for one slab between two defective slabs.

3.11 ASPHALT SHIMS

Concrete slabs within the City right-of-way that were corrected with asphalt shims shall be replaced. The asphalt shim on any good slabs shall be removed and the good slab preserved.

3.12 DRIVE OR DRIVE APRON MATERIAL USED FOR SIDEWALK

Any sidewalk across drive that is not constructed of materials approved for sidewalk construction will be replaced.

3.12 GENERAL DETERIORATION

A sidewalk slab that has multiple defects, even if the limits of the individual criteria are not met, will be replaced.

4 WALKS IN VAULTED AREAS

4.1 The downtown or Public Square area of Watertown has numerous areas of sidewalk that have vaults below them, primarily for the delivery and storage of goods. Maintenance of these walks is the responsibility of the property owner. These walks are specifically included in the program under the same conditions as other property owners with the following additional considerations.

4.2 All walk replacements in vaulted areas shall have the option of retaining the vault access or of sealing the doorway from the vault to the basement and filling the vault and constructing the new walk on grade. In either case, a set of plans stamped by a Professional Engineer licensed to practice in New York State shall be submitted to the City Engineer when the sidewalk permit is requested. The new walk shall be constructed in accordance with these plans.

4.3 Should the property owner elect to have the City of Watertown do the work under the terms of the special assessment, the requirement for a slab or wall design stamped by a licensed PE shall remain in effect. It shall remain the responsibility of the property owner to obtain the required design plans.