

# MPC delays sidewalk requirement

By Pete Seveda

At a meeting Thursday, Dec. 14 the Knoxville-DeKalb County Metropolitan Planning Commission revisited the sidewalk issue. After considerable discussion on the issue at the October MPC meeting, the commission voted 7 to 6 to require developers to put

in sidewalks. The new requirements were to go into effect Feb. 1, 2008.

At last week's meeting the MPC, upon recommendation of staff, voted to delay implementation of the new regulations for one year. Staff offered several reasons for the delay including

developing a master plan, for insuring sidewalk construction standards and developing a procedure for processing waivers.

Commissioner Janice Tischer voted that it is difficult for developers when they fear at the last minute sidewalks are required. She wanted to give them advance

notice.

"We have to look 20 years down the road and see where this county is going," was the opinion of MPC Chair Rebecca Longoria.

Commissioner Art Crancy stated that it was unfair for a developer to come up with

sidewalks without any connectivity to existing sidewalks. "We need a plan in place," he asserted, adding that there are a lot of details to be worked out.

Robert Whaley's request for final plat approval for a two lot subdivision on N. Broadway at

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## New council members face first regular meeting

By Mike Steady  
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The five new members of Knoxville City Council join that body Tuesday evening and encounter an agenda full of items such as signing a Nashville legislative lobbyist, grants for 22 units of affordable housing, an urban gateway project and tapping the funds for a streetscape project

Increasing the contract funds for the Sanitary Laundry Building roof repairs for removing windows and concrete panels is also on the agenda. The ongoing contract with Anderson Lumber Company would fund an additional \$40,000 bringing the total cost to just over \$913,000.

Other items on the new council's agenda include an agreement

