

**The Village of Huntley Pedestrian Access Route (PAR) Inspection and Repair Program.**

by Jason Irvin, Assistant Director of Public Works & Engineering, Village of Huntley

In 2018, the Village of Huntley implemented VUEWorks; an asset management solution that allowed the Village to create a sidewalk maintenance program now known as the Pedestrian Access Route (PAR) Inspection & Repair Program. The innovative process provides a higher quality of service to citizens, increases efficiency for staff, and reduces liability exposures that Municipalities have to navigate. The Village accomplished the goals of the PAR by leveraging multiple modules, including Service Requests, Work Orders, Projects, and Reporting. The program relies heavily on the scheduling, prioritizing, and time stamp function for tasks, comments, and photos.

**PROGRAM HISTORY**

The Village of Huntley is a vibrant, growing community home to a large retirement population. While it's important for all municipalities to maintain public sidewalks and other pedestrian access routes, the unique needs of the Village's demographic demand exceptional walkway management.



Before VUEWorks, the Village of Huntley managed its resident sidewalk service requests with a municipal based financial software solution. This system had limited capabilities and could not effectively support a robust sidewalk maintenance program. To track and manage service requests, the Village relied on emails, paper inspection reports, and Excel spreadsheets. The program had limited flexibility and offered few options to address and maintain the sidewalks. This was mostly due to the difficulty of managing such a program through software not designed to han-

dle the demanding and complex maintenance responsibilities of the pedestrian access routes in the Village.

**PROJECT UPDATES AND VUEWORKS IMPLEMENTATION**

VUEWorks provided the framework to consider:

- Past practices
- Subdivision ordinances
- Risk Management and legal advice
- The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) Acces-

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Condition Rating	Vertical Displacement	Recommended Treatment
Red	1.5" and Greater	REMOVE & REPLACE
Yellow	Between 0.25" – 1.5"	SAW CUT or GRIND
Green	0.25" and Less	NO TREATMENT

Condition Rating	Horizontal Opening	Recommended Treatment
Red	Greater than 0.5"	REMOVE & REPLACE or CRACK FILL
Green	0.5" or less	NO TREATMENT

*PAR conditions are evaluated based on criteria*

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sible Public ROW Field Guide

- United States Access Board Technical Requirements and Proposed Accessibility Guidelines for Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Right-of-Way
- Funding and other resources necessary to balance pedestrian safety needs with other Public Works priorities, within the purpose and scope of the PAR Policy

VUEWorks allowed the Village to create a customized detail form to model the pedestrian access route repair policy. This system provided necessary program guidance and offered the flexibility to add multiple inspection criteria fields for the evaluation and the maintenance of the PAR.

The VUEWorks inspection criteria fields include the following:

1. Four (4) location priorities
2. Four (4) general issue types
3. Six (6) issue areas
4. Vertical Displacement Measurement Fields
5. Vertical Displacement Criteria
6. Horizontal Opening Measurement Fields
7. Horizontal Opening Criteria
8. Condition Rating Types
9. Twelve (12) recommended Treatments for repair
10. Seven (7) Temporary Treatments

11. General Description of the area
12. Notes Field
13. Number of Panels replaced

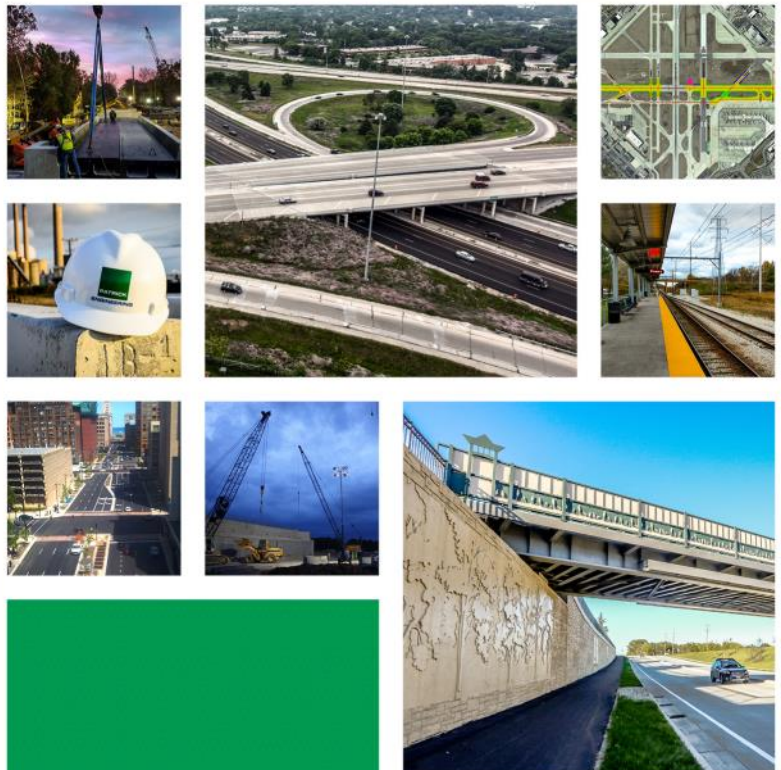
The MobileVUE App allows for further flexibility and streamlines the inspection process for real-time evaluation from office staff and connects all stakeholders to the inspection process.

All Public Works employees use the PAR Evaluation form in VUEWorks to document sidewalk, curb ramp, and multi-use path conditions. When an issue is presented by a resident, staff captures the concerns through a service request. A work order is created with all timeline and con-

tact information documented in one record. The custom detail form is then used to gather necessary information about the sidewalk conditions. Once this assessment is complete and treatment determination is established, the work order is assigned to the appropriate project group for prioritization and scheduling.

All reports are investigated and assigned the appropriate corresponding treatment. The Village may elect to designate a PAR condition for "removal and replacement" using its own resources or, budgetary constraints permitting, those of an outside contractor. Should the condition be so

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designated, the Village would schedule the contemplated work for the same calendar year that the condition was identified or for a future calendar year.

COMMUNITY SATISFACTION

The PAR Inspection and Repair Program has allowed the Village to make significant improvements to public walkways. Residents have expressed particular satisfaction with the Village's recent initiative to install yard drains adjacent to low stretches of sidewalk, preventing dangerous walkway conditions as a result of water pooling (with increased risk of injury from ice

formation in the winter).

One resident wrote to the Village, "I want to thank you for making sure this issue was satisfactorily resolved. With all of the rain we have had this spring, especially the 4" rainfall this past weekend, all of the water drained properly and there was never a problem with water pooling. Thank you, thank you." 



**2020 PEDESTRIAN ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS**

**\$432,000 ACROSS SIX PROJECTS & PROGRAMS**

**1,444 SAW CUTS PERFORMED**

**USE → CROSSWALK**

**9.5 MILES OF SIDEWALK INSPECTED**

Details	Costs	Tasks	Labor	Equipment	Inventory	Assets	Documents	Work Orders	Comments
Location Priority	<input type="text"/>								
Issue Type	<input type="text"/>								
Issue Area	<input type="text"/>								
Vertical Displacement Measure	<input type="text"/> inches								
Vertical Displacement Criteria	<input type="text"/>								
Horizontal Opening Measure	<input type="text"/> inches								
Horizontal Opening Criteria	<input type="text"/>								
Condition Type	<input type="text"/>								
Recommended Treatment	<input type="text"/>								
Temporary Treatment	<input type="text"/>								
General Description of Area	<input type="text"/>								
Notes	<input type="text"/>								
Number of Panels Replaced	<input type="text"/> count								

The VUEWorks detail form

