

**From:** [Laurie Morton](#)  
**To:** [Runkel, Rebecca](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Sidewalks on Quince  
**Date:** Thursday, September 25, 2025 10:27:33 AM  
**Attachments:** [image003.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)

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Hi Rebecca  
Any update on the sidewalk issue on Quince?

Best Regards,  
Laurie Morton

On Fri, Sep 12, 2025 at 1:05 PM Laurie Morton <[lauriemmm137@gmail.com](mailto:lauriemmm137@gmail.com)> wrote:

Hi Rebecca,  
I found this in my drafts folder, so do not believe it was sent to you:

Thank you for the care with which you responded. It was extremely helpful and I was very grateful that my concerns were "heard"! We are lucky to have you working on behalf of our city.

A few thoughts:

- 1) Recently there was a big evening school event and as you may know, there is minimal parking at the elementary school. There were cars parked everywhere as the result, and folks were walking down the middle of the street=not safe.
- 2) I am sure a petitioning effort would not be successful, judging from the fact that it looks like there are some deferred capital expenditures that some of these homeowners on Quince need to make on their houses, e.g., roofs...
- 3) Having watched the installation of the sidewalks elsewhere in the older sub, the new sidewalks and driveway portions and reseeded lawns actually made the homes look much nicer as in many cases the driveways are in very decrepit condition.
- 4) Please do add my comments to the public comment portion of the agenda of the Mobility Committee
- 5) A sidewalk on one side of the street would be better than none as this is a high traffic street with significant bus and school traffic. It is somewhat inconceivable to me that the city would allow homeowners to vote down (if that is what happened) what is in fact a significant public safety remediation.
- 6) Our homeowner's association is comprised of only 12 houses since we are a standalone subdivision constructed in 2016. Our street is not the problem as it is a quiet street (though the elementary school is generating an ever-increasing amount of public parking on the street lately, including school drop offs and pickups).

My "reach out" was precipitated by a recent situation with my granddaughter, which occurred while I was jumping out of the way of a car speeding onto Quince from Ten Mile. I got her stroller wheels caught in the soft soil of the drainage ditch and dumped her face forward in the stroller which was very frightening for both of us. We will not be returning to the walkway on Ten Mile over the pond to see the swans again, as it is, as I said, like running the gauntlet to get to the Ten Mile sidewalk with a stroller. We encounter challenges with not having the sidewalks daily, but getting from Woodglen to Ten Mile is definitely the most dangerous. On the other streets without a sidewalk, we dive into the closest driveway to allow oncoming traffic to pass. It is harrowing to say the least.

Thank you for listening and once again for your service to our city.

Best,  
Laurie

P.S., Subsequent to me drafting the note above, on multiple occasions I have turned off of Ten Mile onto Quince to see multiple people walking in the street directly toward me in the middle of the street - with baby strollers, kids, bikes, dogs and in one case, an elderly man. This is a very dangerous situation which must be addressed by our city. Please provide an update on the results of the mobility committee meeting. Let me know what else we need to do to have our voices heard. To reiterate, this is a public safety issue, and not just as relates to the schools. (Our street has two back pathways to the elementary school that don't require any use of Quince).

On Tue, May 20, 2025 at 12:38 PM Runkel, Rebecca <[rrunkel@cityofnovi.org](mailto:rrunkel@cityofnovi.org)> wrote:

Hi Laurie,

I was forwarded your inquiry about putting sidewalks on Quince Dr. Currently, there are no plans to add sidewalk to Quince Dr. To give you some history on this, back in 2018-19, the City was awarded a Safe Routes to School grant where we worked with residents, the school district, and an engineering consultant to come up with a plan to improve walking/biking routes to four different Novi schools, Orchard Hills Elementary being one of the four. As part of the grant, the City had to solicit public comment/feedback on the proposed sidewalks through surveys and public meetings. We ended up scaling back some of the proposed scope of work due to negative public feedback, i.e., residents not wanting sidewalk in their front yard. The original scope for Orchard Hills did include sidewalk on Quince and Silvery Ln, but it ended up being removed. I wasn't involved in the project at that time, so I'm not 100% sure why it was removed, but it was likely due to either funding constraints or negative public feedback. It was through this grant that the sidewalks on Tamara St and Borchart Dr were constructed.

I am on the City's Mobility Committee, which discusses sidewalk gaps and other non-motorized issues in the City, so I can add your email to the public comment portion of the agenda so it gets documented/discussed by the Committee. Generally, the City would not construct sidewalk on Quince Dr as a standalone Capital Improvement project, it would have to be combined with other sidewalk segments or infrastructure projects so that we'd achieve better economy of scale during the bidding process.

Another option you could pursue is starting a Special Assessment District (SAD). That would involve petitioning residents in your subdivision and collecting enough signatures to have the City design/construct the project, and subdivision residents would pay the City back over time. Here is more information about the SAD process:

<https://cityofnovi.org/services/public-works/engineering-division/special-assessment-district-update/>

One more thing I want to mention is that the Safe Routes to School grant involved participation from the school district by way of educating parents and students on walking/biking safety and other safety measures, such as a forming a 'walking school bus' with adult volunteers from the neighborhood. I've attached the action plan that details some of those educational pieces that are more appropriate for the school/neighborhood to take on. My suggestion would be to contact the school or school district to see if they can help with educating/reminding parents who drive their kids to use more caution, or maybe see if your HOA will remind residents to slow down and move over for pedestrians.

That's all for now, let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,



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