MEMORANDUM

TO:

JOSEPH F. LO BELLO, TOWN MANAGER

FROM:

ANTHONY MERIANO, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

SUBJECT: SIDEWALK BRICK PAVERS

DATE:

MAY 17, 2022

BACKGROUND

The Town of Juno Beach Code requires all Town sidewalks to have decorative brick pavers inserted every 60 feet. There are hundreds of brick sections located within the sidewalks along Town, County, and State rights-of-way. Also, due to this Code requirement, the County and State require that the Town maintain the brick area portions and the adjacent concrete sections of the sidewalks located alongside the County and State roads pursuant to a Maintenance Memorandum of Agreement ("MOA"). The MOA also requires the Town to indemnify the County and the State against any injury or damage claims. The Town is not responsible for maintenance and potential liability on County and State sidewalks where the pavers are not present. Only the Town Council can decide whether or not to exclude the paver requirement that is otherwise required by the Town Code, i.e., the sidewalk on the west side of US Highway #1.

DISCUSSION

The greatest number of incidents of personal injury in the Town occur from trip and falls due to raised or settled paver bricks and/or where paver brick sections meet the concrete sections. While Public Works staff is proactively identifying and repairing uneven brick sections, the vast number of sections may lead to areas that are overlooked and in need of attention.

Therefore, in order to reduce the number of potential trip hazards and potential lawsuits, staff would like to suggest alternative options for the paver brick sections. These options include:

- Remove paver sections in existing areas with high pedestrian traffic and chronic maintenance at staff's discretion. (This option would require a Code change.)
- Create a pilot program to remove brick sections and replace them with a stamped and brick colored pavement. Should Town Council and staff agree to the stamped pavement, and it is found to be successful, then the Town's sidewalk standards could be modified. (This option would require a Code change.)
- Continue maintaining the sidewalk and paver sections as is. (This option will require an increased amount of maintenance as the paver sections age.)

RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends the Town Council review the above options and direct staff on how to proceed.

