

**RESOLUTION No.**

To approve the elements of a Sidewalk Management Plan to balance the demands of multiple sidewalk users in a way that respects everyone's legal rights and makes Downtown Portland the nation's best place to do business, work, live and visit.

WHEREAS, the City of Portland's thriving urban culture and economic success depends in part upon sidewalks that serve the needs of all our community's members; and

WHEREAS, the City of Portland has 4,804 miles of sidewalks, including 37,744 street corners; and

WHEREAS, the Westside of downtown Portland alone comprises 152 miles of sidewalks and 1, 778 corners; and

WHEREAS, people and bicycle racks, signal controller boxes, drinking fountains, fire hydrants, parking meters, transit shelters, light poles, mail boxes, telephones, retail and commercial doorways, garbage cans, newspaper boxes, benches, permitted carts and cafés, "A" board signs and public art among other items must share sidewalks that can range from five to fifteen feet wide; and

WHEREAS, media reports and community concerns about aggressive panhandling have been increasing; and

WHEREAS, a complex interplay of federal, state, county, and city law and court decisions govern how sidewalks must or can be managed; and

WHEREAS, the current national and local economic recession has forced significant budget cuts to government safety net and human service programs leaving more people homeless or without needed services;

WHEREAS, close to 2,500 homeless Portlanders sleep outside or in a shelter bed on any given night in Portland due to a lack of sufficient housing in our community; and

WHEREAS many of those sleeping outside or in shelters, and concerned residents who want to assist them, want to know where to find information and resources for homeless services and housing;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Portland City Council directs the creation of a Sidewalk Management Plan with the following actions to be completed within the next 60 days:

1. The Office of the City Attorney will propose an integration of all city codes that regulate sidewalk uses into one Chapter in the Portland City Code;

2. The Portland Police Bureau shall create and regularly update a work plan to be approved by Commissioner Dan Saltzman to enforce laws prohibiting criminal behavior on sidewalks including littering, harassment, disorderly conduct and drug dealing;
3. Commissioner Dan Saltzman and the Portland Police Bureau will review current training programs and may propose possible additional training programs for security guards under contract with the City of Portland who have authority to patrol the public right-of-way;
4. To improve, expand and continue the investment in day space and other basic services for homeless people that have been established in the downtown area over the past three years, Commissioner Nick Fish and the Portland Housing Bureau will proceed with his plan to construct and fund the operation of proposed Resource Access Center (RAC);
5. Commissioner Nick Fish and the Portland Housing Bureau will partner with community providers to ensure continuity and coordination of existing over-the-counter and internet-based information and referral resources for people experiencing homelessness or needing housing services. Information and referral resources will include info 211, Rose City Resources Guide, Housing Connections, and the Community Service Center at Glisan Street Shelter.
6. With Commissioner Nick Fish, Mayor Sam Adams will partner with the Portland Business Alliance and community providers to create a “Give Real Change, Not Spare Change” public education and over-the-counter donation program at retail stores throughout Downtown Portland. United Way will, in collaboration with community partners, ensure that funding is distributed for needed services;
7. The Office of the City Attorney will propose a new city code to implement the sidewalk access and passage requirements of the federal American’s With Disabilities Act;
8. With the Portland Business Alliance, the Portland Development Commission and community stakeholders, Mayor Sam Adams will propose a Downtown Portland Retail Strategy to assist Downtown Portland retailers;
9. Commissioner Randy Leonard will propose a plan to increase the Number of Public Toilets and increase their visibility by fast tracking the “Loo” citing process, implement visible signage identifying “Loo” locations, and create a plan for long term funding and maintenance;
10. Commissioner Amanda Fritz will publicize telephone and internet-based option for the public to report concerns regarding sidewalks and the public realm in Downtown Portland;
11. Mayor Sam Adams will propose a plan to better manage the concentration and placement of publication boxes located on public sidewalks;

12. City Council will propose an ongoing program to monitor, and improve Sidewalk Management Plan, with an oversight committee including representatives from all stakeholders. Commissioner Amanda Fritz will lead discussions to outline the program and propose an ongoing Commissioner liaison to the oversight committee

Adopted by the Council:  
Mayor Sam Adams

October \_\_\_\_, 2009

LaVonne Griffin-Valade  
Auditor of the City of Portland  
By:

Deputy