

You Can Help

To maintain access to your business and make sure you are complying with city and federal regulations, you should:

- Make sure the sidewalk in front of your business has at least six feet of clear passage. Don't forget to consider existing light poles, planters, or parking meters. Bike racks require eight feet of clear passage so there is room for bicycles.
- Keep tables, chairs, portable signs/ A-boards, and other obstructions out of the six-foot path.
- Keep the area around your entry clear so people can enter and exit.
- Ask customers to move bikes or cars that block curb ramps or other access to the sidewalk.
- Keep umbrellas securely attached to tables, always provide a minimum of seven feet height clearance and ensure that umbrellas don't encroach into the six feet clear zone.

You as a business owner are responsible for complying with the federal government and City of Portland regulations regarding access. Non-compliance may result in permit revocation, civil penalties, and law suits.

For More Information

Office of Transportation
www.portlandtransportation.org

Bureau of Development Services
www.portlandonline.com/bds

**Office of Transportation
Sidewalk Cafes and Vending Carts**
(503) 823-7002 option 5
(503) 823-6868 (TTY)

**Bureau of Development Services
Portable A-Board Signs**
(503) 823-7310 option 6

**Office of Transportation
Sidewalk Complaints**
(503) 823-7002 option 4
(503) 823-6868 (TTY)

**Office of Transportation
Pedestrian Coordinator**
(503) 823-5185
(503) 823-6868 (TTY)



Ensuring Access



*Sharing the Sidewalk
in Portland's
Shopping and
Commercial Districts*

Brightly colored vending carts. Planters overflowing with pansies. The smell of coffee and rolls from a buzzing sidewalk cafe. All these things contribute to the vivid street scene in Portland. Lively and interesting streets are vital to the health of Portland's shopping and commercial districts. Unfortunately, these same things can also deter business and prevent access when they block the sidewalks in front of stores and restaurants.

Just Getting By is Just Not Enough

Federal and city regulations require a clear path of travel to allow everyone use of our sidewalks. The Americans with Disabilities Act requires a clear unobstructed path at least three feet wide. That's just getting by.

To provide better access, the City of Portland requires a six-foot-wide path of travel adjacent to businesses. This allows all people, including those with wheelchairs, strollers or small children, or canine companions, easy access into businesses. It also prevents pedestrian bottlenecks and makes the sidewalks a more pleasant place for everyone.

Do You Have a Permit?

Sidewalk cafes, portable signs, and vending carts are a vital part of Portland's street scene and the City recognizes this value. To ensure adequate access, these uses require that businesses have a city permit to use the sidewalk and show how they will maintain a clear path for pedestrian traffic.

