Legislative Summary

O-6-25

Clearing Snow and Ice from City Sidewalks

The City of Annapolis Office of Law created this summary for the use of Annapolis City Council members during their consideration of the legislation.

Bill Summary

O-6-25 clarifies that the Public Works Director can clear sidewalks of snow and ice and bill the adjacent property owner for the work if they fail to clear the sidewalk within the time specified in the City Code.

Changes to the Code include requiring the cleared area to be the width of the sidewalk or four feet for wider sidewalks and authorizing the Public Works Director to adjust sidewalk-clearing charges on a case-by-case basis.

Background

The City Code currently allows the Public Works Director to take action to clear sidewalks of "manufactured debris and snow" and then bill adjacent property owners. However, that portion of the Code was in a different location than the Snow and Ice Removal section, which caused confusion.

O-6-25 reorders the "Cleaning, clearing, and maintenance" section of the sidewalk, combining all sidewalk clearing sections and deleting the separate "Snow and Ice Removal" chapter.

Details

Subsection Details

Section 14.04.050 - Sidewalk maintenance by abutting owner.

14.04.050(A)(1)

Changes the section number referenced to the newly revised section.

14.04.050(B)

Adds the word "annual" to conform to standard language regarding the annual resolutions adopted by the City Council setting fees and fines.

Section 14.04.060 - Cleaning, clearing, and maintenance by the City.

This section has been reorganized and copyedited, with subheadings added.

14.04.060(A)

Changes "shall" to "authorized" for the purpose of giving the Public Works Director leeway to adapt to circumstances.

14.04.060(B)(c)

Allows the Public Works Director to adjust charges for clearing sidewalks on a case-by-case basis.

14.04.060(C)

Inserts Chapter 14.24 into this section and adds the requirement that: 1) the entire sidewalk or at least four feet wide be cleared of snow and ice, and 2) property owners or occupants have six hours after receiving a notice of infraction to clear the sidewalk or face further sanctions laid out in Chapter 14.04 -- Sidewalks.

Chapter 14.24 -- Snow and Ice Removal

Deleted because the provisions were inserted in the previous section.