

28356
ORDINANCE NO.

An Ordinance to change and reestablish the datum plane or base of grade elevations in the City of Portland, repealing Ordinance No. 9667, and declaring an emergency.

WHEREAS, there are at present three different datum planes used on public work within and adjacent to the City of Portland, namely, the City datum planes, the datum plane used by the Corps of Engineers, United States Army, and by the Commission of Public Docks, and the datum plane used by the United States Geological Survey; and

WHEREAS, the datum plane established by the United States Geological Survey, for its system of elevations, is the most natural, definite and scientifically correct, being mean sea level at Astoria, Oregon; and

WHEREAS, the level surveys of the United States Geological Survey have been extended over wide areas contiguous to the City, and have resulted in the establishment of a number of permanent benchmarks which would be of value to the City of Portland in extending its surveys into territory probably to be annexed in the near future; and

WHEREAS, The City of Portland is now conducting preliminary surveys and investigations in districts not now provided with sewerage and drainage systems and is about to re-determine the elevations of its permanent benchmarks within the City Limits; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable that the datum plane used for such surveys be as nearly universal as possible; therefore

THE CITY OF PORTLAND DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: Mean Sea Level of the Pacific Ocean, as determined by the United States Geological Survey, be and the same is hereby adopted as the datum plane or base of grade elevations for The City of Portland and in all level surveys

hereafter conducted.

Section 2: The elevation of the United States Geological Survey benchmark set in the granite base of the North pillar of the porte cochere at the Fifth Street central entrance to the City Hall in the City of Portland (as determined by the United States Geological Survey) is accepted as seventy-six and three hundred eighty-five thousandths (76.385) feet above mean sea level, or the new base of City grade elevations, the same being approximately seventy-eight and eight hundred thirty-five thousandths (78.835) feet above the City datum plane.

Section 3: The City Engineer is hereby authorized and directed to change the recorded grade elevations on official maps, profiles, plans and other records to conform to the United States Geological Survey datum plane, and also to compile a list of benchmark elevations to conform thereto.

Section 4: All proposed establishment of grades or changes of grades in the City of Portland submitted to the Council after December 31st, 1914, shall be referred to the United States Geological Survey datum plane.

Section 5: The use of existing established grade elevations until such time as it may be practicable to change the records to the new base shall in no way affect the validity of grades nor of improvements carried out in accordance therewith.

Section 6: Ordinance No. 9667 of The City of Portland, entitled, "An Ordinance to establish base of grades in the City of Portland", be and the same is hereby repealed.

Section 7: Inasmuch as this ordinance is necessary for the preservation of the public health, peace and safety of the City of Portland in this: That the City is now conducting

~~preliminary~~ surveys to reestablish the elevations of its present bench-marks within the City Limits and the advantage of its work would be largely lost unless this ordinance goes into immediate effect, therefore an emergency is hereby declared, and this ordinance shall be in force and effect from and after its passage by the Council.

Passed by the Council JAN 7 1914

H. R. ALBEE

Mayor.

Attest:

A. L. BARBER
Auditor.