

## **ORDINANCE NO. 187355**

Extend term of Street Closure Program in Old Town/Chinatown for a period of one year (Ordinance)

The City of Portland ordains:

Section 1. The Council finds:

1. The Old Town/Chinatown Neighborhood generates a high volume of calls for police service in the area of NW 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Avenues between W Burnside and NW Davis, as well as in other areas around this zone, on certain days and during certain hours. Prior to the pilot street closure, police response to many of these calls was delayed by conflicts with vehicles and congestion both in the street and on the sidewalks.
2. The Portland Police Bureau (PPB) proposed a street closure pilot program in December 2012 to expand the pedestrian-only area to enhance public safety by reducing certain incidents. The pilot lasted for 3 months. During that time, police reported an approximately 30% reduction in crime inside the street closure. City Council then voted to continue to close the street for an additional 6 months. Subsequently, in response to community feedback, the City took action to improve the overall livability of the area. The Mayor's Office created a contract with the Portland Business Alliance (PBA) in the amount of \$16,000 to add banners to the perimeter fences that highlight the street closure area, as well as provide educational information pertaining to parking. The contract included the addition of 10 smoke poles, 2 European-style urinals, and janitorial services during the street closure hours. These services were provided during the extended street closure period, and terminated at the end of October, 2013. The PPB also offered crime statistics representing the summer months through the end of September 2013 in comparison to 2012, and continued to track the crime statistics inside the street closure over the summer of 2014. A compilation of crime statistics for the area during the summer of 2014 is attached as Exhibit A. These statistics demonstrate that crimes rates have remained consistent throughout the duration of the street closure from its inception, throughout the summer of 2015.
3. During the pilot program, the 6-month extension of the street closure, and the 1-year street closures from October 2013- October 2014 and October 2014-October 2015, there were significant public benefits such as crime reduction and less congestion. There were 3 town hall discussions between the Mayor of Portland and the Old Town/Chinatown Community Association (OTCTCA), the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (CCBA), business owners, bar owners, and social services providers. Their input regarding the street closure pilot was documented and taken into consideration. The Mayor also participated in two neighborhood walks during the hours of the street closure to learn about prominent concerns in the area. Members from the community were invited to join the Mayor during these walks to express their concerns. From 2013 to the present, the Mayor's staff attended regular OTCTCA meetings and sub-committee

meetings to stay in communication with stakeholders in the area regarding the street closure. A Street Closure Advisory Committee was put together at the onset of the first 1-year ordinance to meet once per month to discuss ways to improve the street closure environment. The Street Closure Advisory Committee has consisted of bar owners (members of the Old Town Hospitality Group), business owners, social service providers, OTCTCA neighborhood representatives, and other key stakeholders in the Old Town/Chinatown neighborhood. The purpose of the Street Closure Advisory Committee was to find ways to improve the street closure area and submit a list of recommendations for overall improvement to the environment in and around the area. The group's recommendations, issued over the course of the street closure period, are attached as Exhibits B, C, D, and E. In 2015, the Street Closure Advisory Committee changed its official title to "3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Stakeholder Advisory Group."

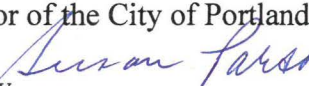
4. In October of 2014, Better Block PDX performed an experiment along parts of NW and SW 3<sup>rd</sup> avenue that opened up the street for improved pedestrian traffic, allowed for one lane of vehicular traffic, and created space for street vendors, performers, and activities to take place. The experiment ran for an entire weekend, and although it was a first trial experiment, the Old Town/Chinatown and Ankeny Alley communities and businesses were impressed with the experiment and voted in favor of trying similar experiments to activate the street in the future. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Stakeholder Advisory Group, Old Town Hospitality Group, Mayor's Office, Portland Police, and others are all committed to trying similar experiments as soon as the present ordinance is effective. Over the course of the coming year, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Stakeholder Advisory Group will continue to explore ways to improve the overall environment in and around the street closure area.
5. The 1-year street closure initially included the same boundaries as laid out in Ordinance 186072, i.e.; the portions of NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave from W Burnside to NW Everett St, NW Couch from NW 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave to NW 4<sup>th</sup> Ave, and NW Davis from 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave to NW 4<sup>th</sup> Ave between 10:00 pm and 3:00 am on Fridays, Saturdays, and other event dates specified by the Police Bureau. During this 1-year street closure extension, the PPB and Mayor's Office will be flexible with both the boundary and time schedule and work with the OTCTCA and immediately test alternatives to mitigate impacts to neighborhood businesses, residents and stakeholders. The boundary and time schedule may be modified within the current perimeter of the street closure by agreement with the PPB, Mayor's Office, and the OTCTCA.
6. The area will continue to include dedicated taxi, limousine, and pedi-cab zones to facilitate safe transportation into and out of the area. These zones will help maintain safe and orderly pedestrian traffic flow and allow officers to address concerns of illegal taxi activity.

7. In order to maintain public safety, PPB will continue to dedicate four officers and one sergeant to the area throughout the course of the 1-year street closure to provide enhanced police presence.
8. To address reasonable accommodation for emergency residential services and any necessary access for disabled residents, police will allow emergency vehicles special access to the street area, and any necessary access for disabled residents.
9. It is in the best interests of the public for Council to assess the data and public comments as to the success or failure of the 1-year street closure, and decide whether to terminate or extend the program in the best interests of the public.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Council directs:

- a. Beginning November 1, 2015, and until November 1, 2016, the Portland Police Bureau is authorized to implement a street closure substantially in accordance with the plan as specified in this Ordinance.
- b. During the street closure under this ordinance, the Mayor's Office will jointly engage in continuing to implement and evaluate the various recommendations for improvement of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Stakeholder Advisory Group.
- c. During the street closure period, the Old Town Chinatown Association will maintain the 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Stakeholder Advisory Group which may consist of members from the Mayor's Office, the Office of Neighborhood Involvement, the Portland Police Bureau, the Portland Bureau of Transportation, as well as stakeholders from the neighborhood to explore and develop options to help improve the overall quality of life in the street closure area. This may include, but is not limited to the directives as laid out in the current Ordinance.

Passed by the Council: SEP 30 2015  
Mayor Charlie Hales  
Prepared by: Chad Stover  
Date Prepared: 09/15/2015


**Mary Hull Caballero**  
Auditor of the City of Portland  
By   
Deputy






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Agenda No.  
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|---|--|
| <b>INTRODUCED BY</b><br>Commissioner/Auditor:<br><b>Mayor Hales</b>   | CLERK USE: DATE FILED <b>SEP 17 2015</b>   |
| <b>COMMISSIONER APPROVAL</b>  | Mary Hull Caballero<br>Auditor of the City of Portland                                       |
| Mayor—Finance and Administration - Hales <i>SAD</i>   | By:  Deputy |
| Position 1/Utilities - Fritz  | <b>ACTION TAKEN:</b>   |
| Position 2/Works - Fish   | SEP 24 2015 PASSED TO SECOND READING SEP 30 2015 9:30 A.M.                                   |
| Position 3/Affairs - Saltzman   |  |
| Position 4/Safety - Novick  |  |
| <b>BUREAU APPROVAL</b>  |  |
| Bureau: Office of the Mayor   |  |
| Prepared by: Chad E. Stover<br>Date Prepared: 09/17/2015  |  |
| Financial Impact & Public<br>Involvement Statement<br>Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amends Budget <input type="checkbox"/>                        |  |
| Portland Policy Document<br>If "Yes" requires City Policy paragraph stated<br>in document.<br>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |  |
| <b>City Auditor Office Approval:</b><br>required for Code Ordinances  |  |
| <b>City Attorney Approval:</b><br>required for contract, code, easement,<br>franchise, comp plan, charter <i>bf</i>   |  |
| Council Meeting Date  |  |

| AGENDA  | FOUR-FIFTHS AGENDA | COMMISSIONERS VOTED<br>AS FOLLOWS:  |      |
|---|--------------------|---|------|
| <b>TIME CERTAIN</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/><br><b>Start time: 2:00 PM</b><br><br><b>Total amount of time needed: 1 Hour</b><br>(for presentation, testimony and discussion) |                    | YEAS  | NAYS |
| <b>CONSENT</b> <input type="checkbox"/>   | 1. Fritz           |  |      |
| <b>REGULAR</b> <input type="checkbox"/><br><b>Total amount of time needed: _____</b><br>(for presentation, testimony and discussion)  | 2. Fish            |  |      |
|   | 3. Saltzman        |  |      |
|   | 4. Novick          |  |      |
|   | Hales              |  |      |