

City of Philadelphia



(Bill No. 080623)

AN ORDINANCE

Amending Section 11-611 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled “Sidewalk and Roadway Lane Closures,” by amending the provisions regulating the application for and issuance of permits for the temporary closure of a sidewalk or roadway lane, including adding new conditions to such permits, providing for building permit revocation and stop work orders for violations, by clarifying that such permits are issued by the Streets Department, and by making certain technical amendments, all under certain terms and conditions.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. Section 11-611 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled “Sidewalk and Roadway Lane Closures,” is hereby amended to read as follows:

[§ 11-611] §11-612. Sidewalk and Roadway Lane Closures.

(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Code to the contrary, no permit that authorizes the temporary closure of a sidewalk or roadway lane, whether issued pursuant to any provision of this Code or any regulation promulgated under this Code, shall be issued unless such permit includes the following conditions:

* * *

(b) The permit shall be valid for a period not to exceed one year from the date it was issued, provided: (i) the permit may be renewed for additional periods not to exceed one year upon a showing that continued closure is necessary to complete the activity for which the permit was obtained; and (ii) the [department that issued the permit] *Department* may at any time order the immediate reopening of any sidewalk or roadway lane that has been temporarily closed if the [department] *Department* finds that the closure is no longer necessary for the activity for which the permit was issued, even if the permit has not yet expired.

(c) *Copies of the permit shall be posted at the site during the entire time of the closure at such locations and in such manner as the Department specifies, so as to permit public inspection of such permit.*

(2) *The Department shall not issue any permit authorizing the closure of any sidewalk under the provisions of this Title 11, any regulation promulgated under this*

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Title, or any other authority, without first making a written determination that a covered walkway in compliance with Title 4 is impracticable in the circumstances. If a permit application seeks closure of a sidewalk that will extend beyond one week, then the permit application must be accompanied by an analysis prepared by an engineer licensed by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania concluding that a covered walkway in compliance with Title 4 is impracticable in the circumstances, and the Department shall consider such analysis before making its own written determination.

(3) The Department shall issue regulations addressing signage, barriers, and other means to create safe and adequate walkways, closures and sidewalk detours.

(4) Closing a sidewalk without first obtaining a sidewalk closure permit from the Department may result in revocation of any associated building permits and/or the issuance of a Stop Work Order.

Explanation:

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted.
Italics indicate new matter added.

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CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Bill, Passed by the City Council on December 11, 2008. The Bill was Signed by the Mayor on December 22, 2008.



Patricia Rafferty
Chief Clerk of the City Council