



City of Seattle Legislative Information Service

Seattle Municipal Code

Information retrieved October 20, 2010 2:21 PM

Title 15 - STREET AND SIDEWALK USE
Subtitle I Street Use Ordinance
Chapter 15.48 - Miscellaneous Acts

SMC 15.48.040 Sitting or lying down on public sidewalks in downtown and neighborhood commercial zones.

A. Prohibition. No person shall sit or lie down upon a public sidewalk, or upon a blanket, chair, stool, or any other object placed upon a public sidewalk, during the hours between seven (7:00) a.m. and nine (9:00) p.m. in the following zones:

1. The Downtown Zone, defined as the area bounded by the Puget Sound waterfront on the west, South Jackson Street on the south, Interstate 5 on the East, and Denny Way and Broad Street on the North;
2. Neighborhood Commercial Zones, defined as areas zoned as Pioneer Square Mixed (PSM), International District Mixed (IDM), Commercial 1 (C1), Commercial 2 (C2), Neighborhood Commercial 1 (NC1), Neighborhood Commercial 2 (NC2), and Neighborhood Commercial 3 (NC3).

B. Exceptions. The prohibition in subsection A shall not apply to any person:

1. Sitting or lying down on a public sidewalk due to a medical emergency;
2. Who, as the result of a disability, utilizes a wheelchair, walker, or similar device to move about the public sidewalk;
3. Operating or patronizing a commercial establishment conducted on the public sidewalk pursuant to a street use permit; or a person participating in or attending a parade, festival, performance, rally, demonstration, meeting, or similar event conducted on the public sidewalk pursuant to a street use or other applicable permit;
4. Sitting on a chair or bench located on the public sidewalk which is supplied by a public agency or by the abutting private property owner;
5. Sitting on a public sidewalk within a bus stop zone while waiting for public or private transportation.

ATTACHMENT 5

Nothing in any of these exceptions shall be construed to permit any conduct which is prohibited by SMC Section [12A.12.015](#), Pedestrian interference.

C. No person shall be cited under this section unless the person engages in conduct prohibited by this section after having been notified by a law enforcement officer that the conduct violates this section.

(Ord. 117103 Section 2, 1994; Ord. 116885 Section 1(part), 1993.)

[Search for ordinances](#) passed since the last SMC update (ordinances codified through Ordinance 123384) that refer to and that may amend Section **15.48.040** . *(Note: this feature is provided as an aid to users, but is not guaranteed to provide comprehensive information about related recent ordinances.)*

See also [Recent Legislation](#) and [Council Bills and Ordinances](#).

For research assistance, contact the Seattle City Clerk's Office at (206) 684-8344, or by e-mail, clerk@seattle.gov.

For interpretation or explanation of a particular SMC section, please contact the relevant City department.

