

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 26 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF PEORIA
BY ADDING SECTIONS 26-251 THROUGH 26-253 TO ARTICLE VII, DIVISION 2:
SIDEWALKS, DRIVEWAYS AND OTHER RIGHTS OF WAY**

WHEREAS, the City of Peoria is a home rule unit of government pursuant to Article VII, Section 6 of the Constitution of the State of Illinois 1970, and may exercise any power and perform any function pertaining to its government and affairs; and

WHEREAS, the City of Peoria strives to be a livable community and contain a well-balanced and connected transportation system that allows for safe walking and biking, and that an efficient, robust public transit is a vital component of a livable community; and

WHEREAS, providing clear, safe pedestrian routes ensures access to jobs, schools and services in our walkable community.

WHEREAS, a sidewalk snow removal ordinance helps ensure safe access for pedestrians and to make all transportation modes available as soon as possible after a snow storm.

WHEREAS, future budget concerns such as the combined sewer overflows, increased street maintenance issues, limited Public Works staff and continued deficit issues prevent the City of Peoria from completing sidewalk snow removal or hiring contractors to do so;

WHEREAS, in keeping with the Complete Streets Policy of the City of Peoria, as roadways in the City are improved utilizing Complete Streets directives, they will be added to those listed below in this Ordinance for sidewalk snow removal maintenance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS that:

SECTION 1. Chapter 26, ARTICLE VII, DIVISION 2. SIDEWALKS of the Code of the City of Peoria is hereby amended by adding the following:

Secs. 26-251 Sidewalk Snow Removal Policy.

All commercial property owners must remove snow within 24 hours after the snow stops falling, when accumulations are less than 6 inches, and within 36 hours after 6 or more inches of snow accumulates as measured by the National Weather Service. If another snow event occurs, the clock will be reset to the end of the most recent snowfall.

Snow must be removed from the sidewalk to a minimum of 4 feet wide to accommodate wheelchairs, strollers, and adults with children in hand.

Noncompliance with this Section could result in a civil penalty of \$50.00 for sidewalks less than 200 linear feet in length, or \$100.00 for sidewalks longer than 200 feet.

The City may remove the snow or ice on private property when the owner fails to comply within the designated time period, and charge the cost to the owner.

The areas listed below for snow removal include all corners of all intersections.

All commercial property owners are required to remove snow and ice from public sidewalks adjacent to their property, in accordance with the regulations stated in this Section. Commercial property shall be defined as real estate used for retail or wholesale trade, hotel, restaurant, offices, clinics, warehouses, light manufacturing, and other such uses but not for residential purposes. This requirement also includes:

1. All public and private schools, hospitals, and churches;

2. CityLink is responsible for snow removal within a 10 foot radius around bus shelters and benches on marked primary snow routes.

Depositing snow and ice on public streets or sidewalks is prohibited. Such action may result in a fine of \$250.00.

Sec. 26-252. Exceptions.

Exceptions include:

- (a) Sidewalk accessible ramps at intersections on marked primary snow routes which are adjacent to commercial property, public and private schools, hospitals, and churches, are not included, but shall be the responsibility of the City.
- (b) If snow/ice is deposited on a sidewalk as a result of government action. An example would be curblane sidewalk adjacent to a driving lane that is narrow and there is no other place for the snowplows to deposit snow.

Sec. 26-253. Implementation and Reporting.

Enforcement of sidewalk snow removal will be complaint driven.

Secs. 26-254– 265. Reserved.

SECTION 2. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval according to law.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS this ____day
of _____, 2015.

APPROVED:

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

EXAMINED AND APPROVED:

Corporation Counsel