



**Contra  
Costa  
County**

To: Board of Supervisors  
From: Brian M. Balbas, Public Works Director/Chief Engineer  
Date: December 14, 2021

Subject: INTRODUCE ordinance requiring property owners to keep sidewalks adjacent to their property free of obstructions, Countywide.

**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

INTRODUCE Ordinance No. 2022-01, requiring property owners to keep sidewalks adjacent to their property free of obstructions, WAIVE reading, and FIX January 11, 2022, for adoption.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The ordinance may create an incentive for property owners to keep the sidewalks abutting their property free of obstructions, thereby reducing the amount of staff time needed to clear obstructions from sidewalks.

**BACKGROUND:**

Chapter 1016-2 (the Sidewalk Maintenance and Repair Ordinance) of the County Ordinance Code and Chapter 22 of Part 3 of Division 7 of the California Streets and Highways Code require property owners to maintain and repair sidewalks along the frontage of their property. If a property owner's failure to maintain the sidewalk abutting the property results in a condition that is a danger to the public, and a person suffers injury or damage while on

☒ APPROVE

☐ OTHER

☒ RECOMMENDATION OF CNTY ADMINISTRATOR

☐ RECOMMENDATION OF BOARD COMMITTEE

Action of Board On: **12/14/2021** ☒ APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED ☐ OTHER

Clerks Notes:

**VOTE OF SUPERVISORS**

AYE: John Gioia, District I  
Supervisor  
Candace Andersen, District II  
Supervisor  
Karen Mitchoff, District IV  
Supervisor  
Federal D. Glover, District V  
Supervisor

ABSENT: Diane Burgis, District III  
Supervisor

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

ATTESTED: December 14, 2021

Monica Nino, County Administrator and Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: June McHuen, Deputy

Contact: Chris Lau, (925)  
313-7002

cc:

the sidewalk, the property owner is liable to the injured person for the injury or damage caused by the dangerous

## BACKGROUND: (CONT'D)

condition.

Ordinance No. 2022-01, the Sidewalk Obstructions Ordinance, adds Section 1016-2.010 to the Sidewalk Maintenance and Repair Ordinance. The Sidewalk Obstructions Ordinance requires property owners to maintain sidewalks adjacent to their property by keeping the sidewalks free of weeds, rubbish, dirt, rocks, debris, or other obstructions, and authorizes the County to abate sidewalk obstructions pursuant to Ordinance Code Article 14-6.4 or any other remedy allowed by law, and to recover abatement costs by placing a lien on the property.

## CONSEQUENCE OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

If the Sidewalks Obstructions Ordinance is not adopted, there will be no incentive for property owners to keep the sidewalks abutting their property free of obstructions.

## ATTACHMENTS

Ordinance 2202-01