

AGENDA ITEM REPORT

<u>DATE OF MEETING:</u>	July 10, 2017
<u>ITEM:</u>	Ordinance Amending Title 9 - Public Peace, Morals and Welfare
<u>STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS:</u>	Goal #2: "Safest City"; Goal #4: "Strong & Diverse Economy"; Goal #8: "Vibrant Uptown"
<u>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:</u>	An ordinance clarifying the duty of persons owning or occupying places of business to keep the sidewalk in front of their business premises free of litter.
<u>BACKGROUND:</u>	<p>Collinsville, like other municipalities with pedestrian-oriented business districts, seeks to maintain a clean and safe environment for residents, visitors, business owners, and the local workforce. City Council and Staff have heard directly from citizens and business owners expressing concern about some businesses allowing litter, trash, and debris to accumulate on the sidewalk in front of their business.</p>
<u>ANALYSIS:</u>	<p>There are a number of reasons why keeping sidewalks consistently clear and clean of litter, trash, and debris is important:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cleaner neighborhoods make residents and visitors feel safer, friendlier and healthier• Cleaner neighborhoods strengthen communities and improve quality of life• Cleaner communities improve real estate values and increase economic development <p>Unlike many other communities, the City of Collinsville's Code of Ordinances does not include specific language requiring businesses to keep the sidewalk in front of their establishment litter-free. Most business and property owners, as a good business practice, voluntarily keep the sidewalk clean. Unfortunately, this practice is not universal, and as a result broken glass, litter, animal waste, etc. tends to accumulate in front of some establishments. Typically, a "friendly reminder" by Code Enforcement results in business owners cleaning the sidewalk, but this is not always the case. Approval of the ordinance would provide Staff with an enforcement mechanism to manage the latter situation.</p> <p>If the Council believes the proposed requirement to be unwarranted, the presumed responsibility for maintaining clean sidewalks would fall upon the City of Collinsville. This could</p>

ultimately require dedicating employee hours to sweeping and hosing-off sidewalks and/or the purchase of a *sidewalk sweeper* akin to a street sweeper. However, the implementation of such an operation would unlikely result in sidewalks that are consistently clear and clean of litter, trash, and debris when contrasted to the practicality of business owners being required to do the same.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Director recommends the approval of the attached draft ordinance amending Title 9, *Public Peace, Morals and Welfare*, requiring businesses to keep the adjacent sidewalk free of litter.

SUBMITTED BY:

David B. Bookless, Director of Community Development

ATTACHMENTS:

Ordinance