



Public Works Department
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A REMINDER TO PROPERTY OWNERS REGARDING SIDEWALKS, TREES AND SKATEBOARDS

We here at the Public Works Department have recently received several questions from residents regarding trees, sidewalks and skateboarding. We thought this would be a good opportunity to remind residents that the homeowner is responsible for maintaining the sidewalks and street trees abutting their property, and to ask those who use skateboards, roller skates, etc., to please use good judgment when riding on sidewalks by demonstrating safe riding practices, being courteous to other pedestrians, and showing respect for private property. Below are some excerpts from our Municipal Code regarding these issues. The full Banks Municipal Code is available on our website www.cityofbanks.org ; it is newly revised and quite easy to use. If you do not have access to the internet at home, please feel free to use the public computers at the Banks Public Library (they also now have wireless Wi-Fi as well.)

"Banks Municipal Code, CHAPTER 90: NUISANCES § 90.10 DEFECTIVE SIDEWALKS; SNOW AND ICE. (B) No owner of property, improved or unimproved, abutting on a public sidewalk, shall permit the sidewalk to deteriorate to such a condition that, because of cracks, chipping, weeds, settling, covering by dirt, or other similar occurrences, the sidewalk becomes a hazard to persons using it. (C) The City shall not be liable to any person for loss or injury to a person or property suffered or sustained by reason of any accident on sidewalks caused by ice, snow, encumbrances, obstructions, cracks, chipping, weeds, settling, holes covered by dirt or other similar conditions. Abutting property owners shall maintain sidewalks."

"Banks Municipal Code, CHAPTER 90: NUISANCES § 90.07 TREES. (A) No owner or person in charge of property that abuts on a street or public sidewalk shall permit trees and bushes on the property to interfere with street or sidewalk traffic. An owner or person in charge of property that abuts on a street or public sidewalk shall keep all trees and bushes trimmed on the premises, including the adjoining parking strip, trimmed so that any overhanging portions are at least eight feet above the sidewalk and at least twelve feet above the roadway."

"Banks Municipal Code, CHAPTER 70: GENERAL PROVISIONS § 70.11 ROLLER SKATES, SLEDS, AND THE LIKE. (A) No person upon roller skates or a skateboard, or riding in or by means of a coaster, toy vehicle, or similar device, shall use the streets except while crossing at a crosswalk, or in an authorized area. (B) No person shall use the streets for traveling on skis, toboggans, sleds or similar devices, except where authorized."

"Banks Municipal Code, CHAPTER 70: GENERAL PROVISIONS § 70.12 DAMAGING SIDEWALKS AND CURBS. (A) The operator of a motor vehicle shall not drive on a sidewalks or roadside planting strip except to cross at a permanent or temporary driveway. (B) No unauthorized person shall place dirt, wood, or other material in the gutter or space next to the curb of a street with the intention of using it as a driveway. (C) No person shall remove a portion of a curb, or move a motor vehicle or a device moved by a motor vehicle onto a curb or sidewalk without first obtaining authorization from the City and posting bond if required. A person who caused damage shall be responsible for the cost repair."

If you have any questions please call, the Public Works Director, at (503) 324 -5112 or, again, check our website at www.cityofbanks.org .

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jim Hough", is written over a blue scribble.

Jim Hough
Public Works Director