



Additionally, the ordinance requires all the newsracks located in the BID to be placed within a box corral. The Downtown Winston-Salem Partnership has provided a map of proposed locations for the corrals, based on the present location of newsracks and what the DWSP feels is the best location for the corrals to go to maximize the exposure of the publishers' material and minimize pedestrian and safety issues.

Requiring the use of box corrals will have the effect of reducing the total number of newsracks on sidewalks. As a result, the ordinance directs the City to develop an equitable system that determines which publishers can place their newsracks in which box corrals to ensure that smaller publishers are not squeezed out of the downtown market.

The ordinance will be administered and enforced by the Assistant City Manager responsible for Public Works. Violations of the ordinance will result in the removal of the offending newsracks, and the publisher will be assessed the fees for the removal and storage of the newsrack. An appeal process is available, however, for publishers to seek relief in the event a publisher wants to contest the removal of a newsrack and the related fees.

This ordinance has been a multiyear process. The impetus for this ordinance was citizen complaints about the walkability of certain areas downtown and the overall appearance and safety of the newsracks. This ordinance was based off of the International Municipal Lawyers Association model ordinance and other similar ordinances in Charlotte, Raleigh, Wilmington, and Philadelphia. This ordinance was drafted and first presented to the CD/H/GG Committee in June 2015 and came back as an information item in June 2017.

The City received feedback from that Committee and consequently met with several area publishers several times over the past two years to discuss this proposed ordinance and solicit their feedback. Deron Henry and John Lawson met with representatives of the Winston-Salem Journal, Yes Weekly, Triad City Beat and the Downtown Winston-Salem Partnership on 7/5/15, 9/1/16, 10/6/16, and 12/1/16. There have been numerous email exchanges and telephone calls between the parties (including the Chronicle) as our office sought feedback in an effort to refine the ordinance to make it as palatable and feasible for all interested parties.