

## **City of Key West**

### **Overview: Street Performers and Street Artists Ordinance (11-07)**

**Street Performer and Street Artist permits are necessary for those wishing to engage in performing or to vend their own artwork on city sidewalks.**

**The fee is \$150 per year.**

**Applications are accepted each business day at the Licensing office, 3140 Flagler Avenue, between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm.**

**Applicants must apply in person, and provide a photo I.D and insurance certificate. Artists must also provide proof of Florida sales tax registration**

#### **Contact information:**

**Licensing Office  
3140 Flagler Avenue  
Key West, FL 33040**

**305-809-3955**

**[cwalker@keywestcity.com](mailto:cwalker@keywestcity.com)**

## **Palm Frond Weavers Administrative Procedure**

On a specific date and time, a drawing will be held to select the 5 weavers allowed by Chapter 110 and licensed under Chapter 6.

Eligible weavers must submit street artist applications in accordance with Chapter during the month of November of any given year. Licensing staff will accept applications any working day of November. Applicant must present valid picture I.D. and must apply in person.

On a day to be determined each year, between December 1 and December 15, staff will conduct a drawing. Each of the applicants will be assigned a number. All numbers will be deposited into a container. A city staff member will select all numbers in descending order. The first five to be drawn will be those eligible to receive their permits. Applicants are welcome to observe the drawing, but are responsible to find out the day, time, and location. There will be at least one witness to the staff person conducting the drawing.

Any person whose name was drawn as one of the first five must present a certificate of insurance meeting requirements of 6-2(c), sales tax registration, and pay for their permit within 10 working days thereafter. If all five permits are not issued by the 11<sup>th</sup> day, licensing office staff will make a reasonable effort to contact the next person in line. After being contacted, that person will have 10 days working days to meet the requirements. The licensing office staff will continue this process until five permits have been issued. If less than five weaving applications are received by November 30th, any eligible weaver applicant thereafter may immediately obtain a street artist permit for weaving after meeting applicable requirements. However, his/her permit will expire on the same date as the weavers that applied in November, and the permit fee will be prorated. In the event that 5 or less applications are received in November, and no drawing is necessary, the Licensing office will preserve the applicant's right to obtain the permit until 10 working days after the intended drawing date. If the applicant fails to appear at the Licensing office with the required documents and payment by that date, his/her application will be discarded and be of no further use.

During the subsequent permit period if a permit holder voluntarily surrenders his or her permit, the person whose name is next in line may request a permit. Full (prorated) fee will be due, there will be no transferability of fee. The Licensing Division accepts no responsibility to make successful contact with next applicant in line, although Licensing staff will make a reasonable attempt to contact that person.

Carolyn Walker  
Licensing Official 12/6/10 (amended 6/15/11, 11/29/11)

ORDINANCE NO. 11-07

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 6 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES ENTITLED "AMUSEMENTS AND ENTERTAINMENT"; BY AMENDING SECTION 6-1, TO ADD DEFINITIONS; SECTION 6-2 TO AMEND PERMIT, APPLICATION AND APPEAL PROCESSES, ADDING PALM WEAVING PERMITS AND EXTENDING 2010 PERMITS; AMENDING SECTION 6-3, REGARDING LOCATIONS; AMENDING SECTION 6-4 BY AMENDING PERMIT REGULATIONS AND PROHIBITIONS; AMENDING SECTION 6-7 REGARDING REVOCATION OF PERMITS; AMENDING SECTION 6-8, ADJUSTING PERMIT FEES; AMENDING SECTION 6-9 REGARDING PENALTY ENFORCEMENT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF INCONSISTENT PROVISIONS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the City of Key West finds that the existence of street performers and art vendors inherently attract audiences that congests the public area thereby creating a hazard to public health, safety and welfare of pedestrian passersby, it is the intent of the City Commission for the City of Key West to amend the Street Performers and Street Artists Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the City of Key West finds that the existence of street performers in unregulated locations within the most historic area of the city and one of the most historically significant historic districts in the United States would adversely affect the interests of the residents and businesses in the enjoyment of their homes

and businesses, the City Commission for the City of Key West hereby establishes acceptable areas for Street Performers and Street Artists to safely perform their craft in the historic district; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission for the City of Key West has taken testimony regarding the extreme pedestrian congestion on the sidewalks of the historic district, along with testimony regarding modern minimum sidewalk clearances in light of the American With Disabilities Act's design guidelines for public rights-of-way and the task of reconciling the two, the amendments contained herein are justifiable time, place and manner regulations of free speech under the First Amendment; and

WHEREAS, the amended ordinance contained herein has been considered by the Duval Street Committee and vetted in numerous meetings with the street performers and artists; and

WHEREAS, an amendment to the Street Performers and Street Artists ordinance will promote the health, safety and welfare of the citizens and visitors of the City of Key West.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA:

Section 1: That Section 6-1 of the Code of Ordinances is hereby amended as follows\*:

Sec. 6-1. Definitions

Art shall mean painting, sketching, photography, palm weaving, crafts and sculpture and other mediums that are established and recognized in the artistic community, including by professional institutions such as museums and art galleries.

Animal shall mean any living or non living warm or cold-blooded creature including but not limited to: reptiles, amphibians, arachnids, birds, or mammals.

Artisan and Performer Corridor shall mean those portions of public sidewalk on Duval Street from Front Street to Petronia Street including all intersecting streets up to but not including Whitehead Street and Simonton Street as described in attached "Exhibit A."

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\*(Coding: Added language for consideration and vote at first reading on March 1, 2011 is underlined; deleted language is ~~struck through~~.)

Added language at first reading on March 1, 2011 is double underlined; deleted language is ~~double struck through~~.)

Duval Street Corridor Cultural District shall mean those portions of public sidewalk on Duval Street from Petronia Street to South Street including all intersecting streets up to but not including Whitehead Street and Simonton Street as described in "Exhibit C"

*Historic District shall mean all property located within the following zoning districts of Key West: HRO, HRCC-1, HRCC-2, HRCC-3, HRCC-4, HMDR, HHDR, HNC-1, HNC-2, HNC-3, HCT, HCL, HPS, HPS-1 and HPRD.*

*Street performance (or street performer) shall mean the following activities (or one who engages in them): acting, singing, playing a musical instrument, pantomime, juggling, magic, dancing, comedy, acrobatics, puppetry, joke telling, character impersonation and other similar types of public performance done for the purpose of public entertainment or amusement.*

*Vending of art (or art vendor) shall mean the following activities (or one who engages in it): the creation, display and/or sale of art that is created only by the permit holder. An art vendor shall not include a person who creates a work of art while in a public area, but has no intention to display for sale or sell the work of art in that area at any point in time.*

Weapons shall mean any dirk, knife with a blade longer than 2 inches, scissors or shears with a blade longer than 4 inches, metallic knuckles, slingshot, bille, tear gas gun, chemical weapon or device, machete, axe, plastic gun or blunt-bladed table knife or other deadly weapon, that is not otherwise regulated and approved by the Cultural Preservation Society for performances only at Mallory Square sunset celebration.

Section 2: That Section 6-2 of the Code of Ordinances is hereby amended as follows:

**Sec. 6-2. Permit Required; Application; Appeal; Fees**

(a) A permit system for street performers and street artists is hereby established. It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in any street performance or art vending on public property in the Historic District within the area defined in 6-1 as the Artisan and Performer Corridor without first obtaining a permit as required by this article. This ordinance shall not apply to impromptu behavior by persons not holding themselves out as public performers.

(b) The city through its licensing division shall issue street performer permits (Permit "A") and art vending permits (Permit "B") for use in the ~~Historic District~~ area

defined in 6-1 as the Artisan and Performer Corridor. Each Permit "A" and "B" shall be effective for a period of one year from the date of issuance. ~~The licensing division shall open an application process during the month of November of each year, closing applications on each November 30, and shall issue such permits on or before each December. The first year's enrollment shall close on February 1, 2005, and the initial issuance of permits, with fees pro-rated, shall occur on February 15, 2005 (to expire on December 14, 2005).~~ Those permits which have not been paid for in full and picked up at the licensing department within 14 days of notification that the permit is ready shall be forfeited.

(c) The licensing division shall establish a standard application form for "A" and "B" permits. This application form shall include (but not be limited to): (i) name, address and telephone number of the applicant; (ii) a photograph of the applicant; (iii) a declaration under penalty of perjury that the applicant for a "B" permit shall vend art that is only of his or her own original creation; (iv) a hold harmless agreement releasing the city and its employees from all claims and actions arising out of the street performance or art vending on public property; and (v) a description of the performance or the

art. All applications to the licensing division must be made in person by the applicant; (vi) Permittee shall furnish and maintain such public liability and property damage insurance providing coverage for all claims and damage to property or bodily injury, including death which may arise from street performances or art vending on city right of way under this ordinance. Such insurance shall provide coverage of not less than Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00) for bodily injury and property damage respectively, per occurrence. The City shall be named as an additional insured. All policies required under this ordinance shall provide such policies may not be terminated or cancelled without 30 days written notice sent via certified mail to the licensing official for the City of Key West. Performers are permitted to submit a group policy provided that the individual members possess coverage consistent with this section. (vii) Applications for a Permit B shall also include a valid sales tax receipt issued by the State of Florida.

(d) A permit is nontransferable.

~~(e) A person who misses the application deadline set forth in subsection (b) may appeal to the city commission so long as the following criteria are met: (i) the person~~

~~was approved for a permit for the same proposed activity in the previous year; and (ii) the ground for appeal is a demonstrable hardship directly related to the missed application deadline. The appellant shall file the appeal in writing to the city clerk and pay the standard filing fee. The appeal shall be scheduled for the next available city commission meeting.~~

~~(f) (e) A person whose permit application is denied for any reason other than that set forth in subsections (e) may appeal to the circuit court. The city manager shall provide notice and opportunity to be heard. The ten day appeal period shall not apply to applications denied in December of 2005.~~

(f) There shall be a limitation of five permits issued for palm weaving per year to be determined by lottery system established by the licensing department. All other requirements under chapter 110 for palm weavers must be complied with. Coconut fruits are expressly excluded from this permitting section.

(g) There shall be a fee of \$150.00 collected at the time of permit application for either permit A or B.

Section 3: That Section 6-3 of the Code of Ordinances is hereby amended as follows:

Sec. 6-3. Locations.

(a) The following locations in the Historic District shall not be used by street performers or street artists permitted under this ordinance:

- i. Mallory Square.
- ii. Wall Street.
- iii. In front of or abutting a federal, state or local government building.
- iv. In front of or abutting a church, synagogue or other place of worship.
- v. In front of or abutting a theatre.
- vi. The Key West Bight Harborwalk.
- vii. The Truman Waterfront property.
- viii. The area ~~under license agreement~~ at commonly known as the Southernmost Point, extending from the center of the intersection of South and Duval Streets westward to the southernmost Point monument then continuing northward to center of the intersection of United and Whitehead Streets.
- ix. The area defined in 6-1 as the Duval Street Corridor Cultural District
- x. Whitehead Street from Front Street to Eaton Street

xi. The area commonly known as Clinton Square including those portions of Whitehead, Greene and Front Streets

(b) The use of a location on public property by a permit holder is on a daily, first-come, first-served basis. No permit holder shall make efforts to reserve a location; and each permit holder shall abandon a location at the end of his or her working day, including the removal of all personal property of the permit holder.

(c) ~~The following area outside of the Historic District, White Street Pier shall not be used by street performers or street artists: the White Street Pier.~~

(d) A license holder cannot establish themselves within twenty feet of the closest intersection or within ten feet of another permit holder. Street performers may combine performances subject to the limitation as set forth in 6-4(k).

(e) A permit holder within this Article shall establish themselves in an area that is at least five feet from the adjacent property line and at least twelve inches from the adjacent street curb as described in attached "Exhibit B."

Section 4: That Section 6-4 of the Code of Ordinances is hereby amended as follows:

**Sec. 6-4. Permit regulations; prohibitions.**

(a) Throughout the period of time the permit holder is located on public property and engaged in performance or vending art, he or she shall maintain the permitted area, within a radius of ten feet, free of trash and debris and deposit the trash and debris in proper receptacles.

(b) A performer or art vendor shall not create noise that violates the Key West sound control ordinance set forth in chapter 26 of the Code of Ordinances.

(c) A performer or art vendor shall not create an undue interference with the passage of the public through a public area. If a performer or vendor attracts a crowd sufficient to obstruct the public way, a police or code enforcement officer may disperse the crowd that is creating the obstruction. The officer may ask the performer or vendor temporarily to suspend a performance or vending activity or to leave the location when such action is necessary to protect the public safety or public order.

(d) A performer ~~or vendor~~ may request donations of money or property at a performance. Art vendors holding a Permit B shall present a valid State of Florida sales tax receipt at the time of application. Art vendors may offer for sale their own original art (or a reproduction thereof so long as it is identified as a reproduction), provided that the display of the art is contained in an area within the immediate reach of the art vendor.

(e) No performer or art vendor shall create a fire hazard or use fire or a weapon as defined in 6-1 in a performance or creation of art or crafts.

(f) No performer or art vendor shall engage in the application of tattoos or body piercing.

(g) No performer or art vendor shall include obscenity in a performance or vending activity.

(h) No performer or art vendor shall engage in harassment or coercion of passersby.

(i) Spray painting shall be permitted, so long as the artist provides ground cover, a wind screen, and confines the spray painting to an area not greater than five feet by five feet; and otherwise ensures that the spray paint shall not damage or implicate property not involved in the subject art.

(j) No food or drink, whether made by a permit holder or otherwise, shall be permitted to be displayed or offered for sale.

(k) No ~~display~~ tables, lounge chairs, push carts or mobile display racks , including all accoutrements, shall be placed on public property (other than one easel) display that is no larger than six feet high, four feet wide and four feet deep including all attachments for either permit A or permit B holders. shall be placed on public property. One small chair or stool shall be allowed; a portrait artist may provide a folding chair for the customer which shall be stored when not in use. Permit holders shall not occupy an area larger than twenty-five square feet.

(l) No performer or art vendor shall block access to an entrance to a building, bicycle rack, or to a trash receptacle.

(m) No performer or art vendor shall interfere with a motorist, either regarding the passage of a vehicle or the sight of its driver.

(n) A permit holder shall not engage in fraudulent practices or solicitations, including but not limited to misrepresentation about any sale or solicitation, misrepresentation about the nature and type of any organization with which the permit holder is associated,

misrepresentation or concealment of any material fact in the application process, or misrepresentation regarding any art being vended.

(o) No performer or art vendor shall engage in off-premises canvassing as set forth in chapter 18 of the Code of Ordinances; provided, however that an art vendor may distribute a catalogue of his or her work.

(p) No performer or art vendor shall connect to electric outlets or power sources owned by the city or on private property, and must provide his or her own safe power sources, if any are required. Extension cords that traverse the city right of way are prohibited.

~~(q) No performer shall use an animal as part of his or her act while on public property unless the performer is licensed by the United States Department of Agriculture under the Animal Welfare Act.~~ Permit A folders are permitted to have one animal as part of their performance. Such animal is limited to a domesticated dog, domesticated cat, bird with a wingspan no larger than 36 inches or tortoise with a shell no longer than 36 inches.

(r) Persons operating under Permit "B" shall not engage in performances of any kind, except for the creation of an original work of art.

(s) The licensing division may promulgate administrative rules to effectuate this section.

(t) No permit holder may actually or constructively possess any alcoholic beverages, nor be under the influence of same while conducting their business or performance.

(u) Palm fronds used by a permit holder shall be limited in length to three feet.

(v) Any permit holder who is a minor as defined in Section 42-12(a) of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Key West shall abide by the provisions of Section 42-12(b) and shall have a parent or legal guardian with them at all times while performing any activity under this chapter.

(w) Amplification in any form is prohibited.

Section 5: That Section 6-7 of the Code of Ordinances is hereby amended as follows:

**Sec. 6-7. - Revocation of permit.**

(a) A permit obtained through fraud or through material misrepresentation on the permit holder's application is deemed void *ab initio*. The city manager shall revoke the permit. Prior to revocation, the city manager or his designee shall provide the permit holder notice and an informal opportunity to be heard on the decision to revoke.

(b) If a permit holder is found by the code enforcement special master or the county court to have violated the regulations set forth in this article two times within a ~~one-~~ three year period, then the city manager may revoke the permit. Permits whose insurance is cancelled prior to the expiration of the insurance policy will be subject to revocation. Prior to revocation, the city manager or his designee shall provide the permit holder notice and an informal opportunity to be heard on the decision to revoke.

(c) Any revocation of a permit under subsections (a) or (b) shall be for the duration of the current permitting period and for the next subsequent permitting period.

(d) The decision of the city manager or his designee, special magistrate or county court judge to revoke a permit, or any disciplinary action or fine under this section shall be provided in writing to the permit holder. The revocation decision shall constitute final administrative agency action and shall be appealable directly to circuit court.

Section 6: That Section 6-8 of the Code of Ordinances is hereby amended as follows:

~~Sec. 6-8. Fee.~~

~~The permit fee for a street performer or street artist permit shall be \$100.00 \$200.00. It shall be payable at the time of permit issuance.~~

Section 7: That Section 6-9 of the Code of Ordinances is hereby amended as follows:

**Sec. 6-9. Penalty.**

(a) A person charged with violating section 6-1 through and including 6-8 hereof shall be subject to prosecution and fine under the civil citation procedures of sections 2-676 through 2-680, or section 1-15 of the Key West Code of Ordinances or brought before the special magistrate under Ch. 162 of Florida Statutes.

(b) A street performer or street artist who is located in whole or in part on private property without the consent of the private property owner is subject to prosecution for trespass, Florida Statutes Chapter 810.

Section 8: If any section, provision, clause, phrase, or application of this Ordinance is held invalid or unconstitutional for any reason by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions of this Ordinance shall be deemed severable therefrom and shall be construed as reasonable and necessary to achieve the lawful purposes of this Ordinance.

Section 9: All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances of said City in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby superseded to the extent of such conflict.

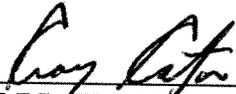
Section 10: Section 6-2(c)(vi) of this ordinance shall go into effect sixty (60) days from its passage. All other portions of this ordinance shall go into effect immediately upon its passage and adoption and authentication by the signature of the presiding officer and the Clerk of the Commission.

Read and passed on first reading at a regular meeting held this 1st day of March, 2011.

Read and passed on final reading at a regular meeting held this 5th day of April, 2011.

Authenticated by the presiding officer and Clerk of the Commission on 19th day of April, 2011.

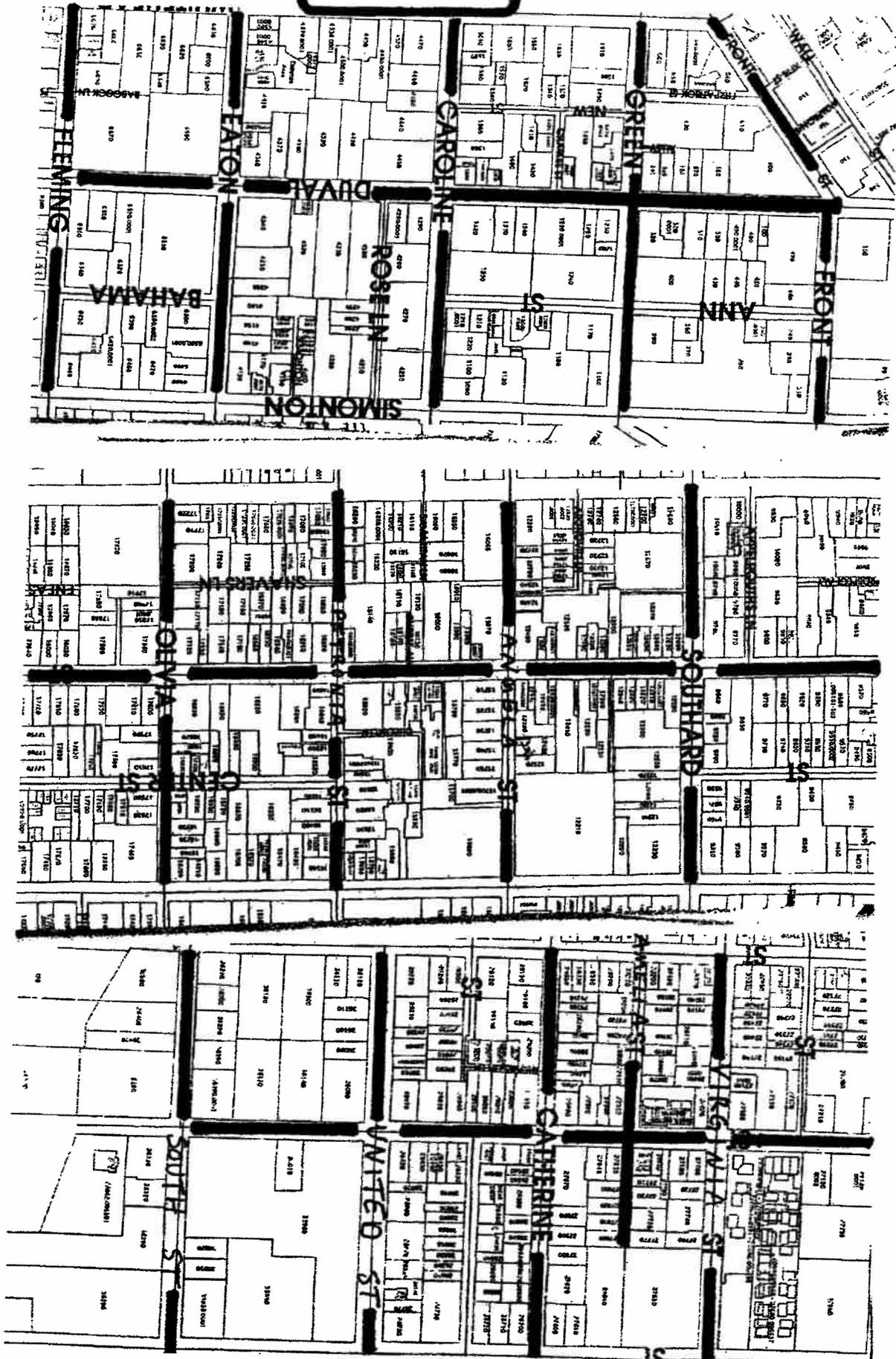
Filed with the Clerk April 19, 2011.

  
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CRAIG CATES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHERYL SMITH, CITY CLERK

EXHIBIT  
A



Street  
curb →

← property  
Line

5 Feet from  
adjacent property  
line

12 inches from  
adjacent street  
curb

▣ = permissible  
area

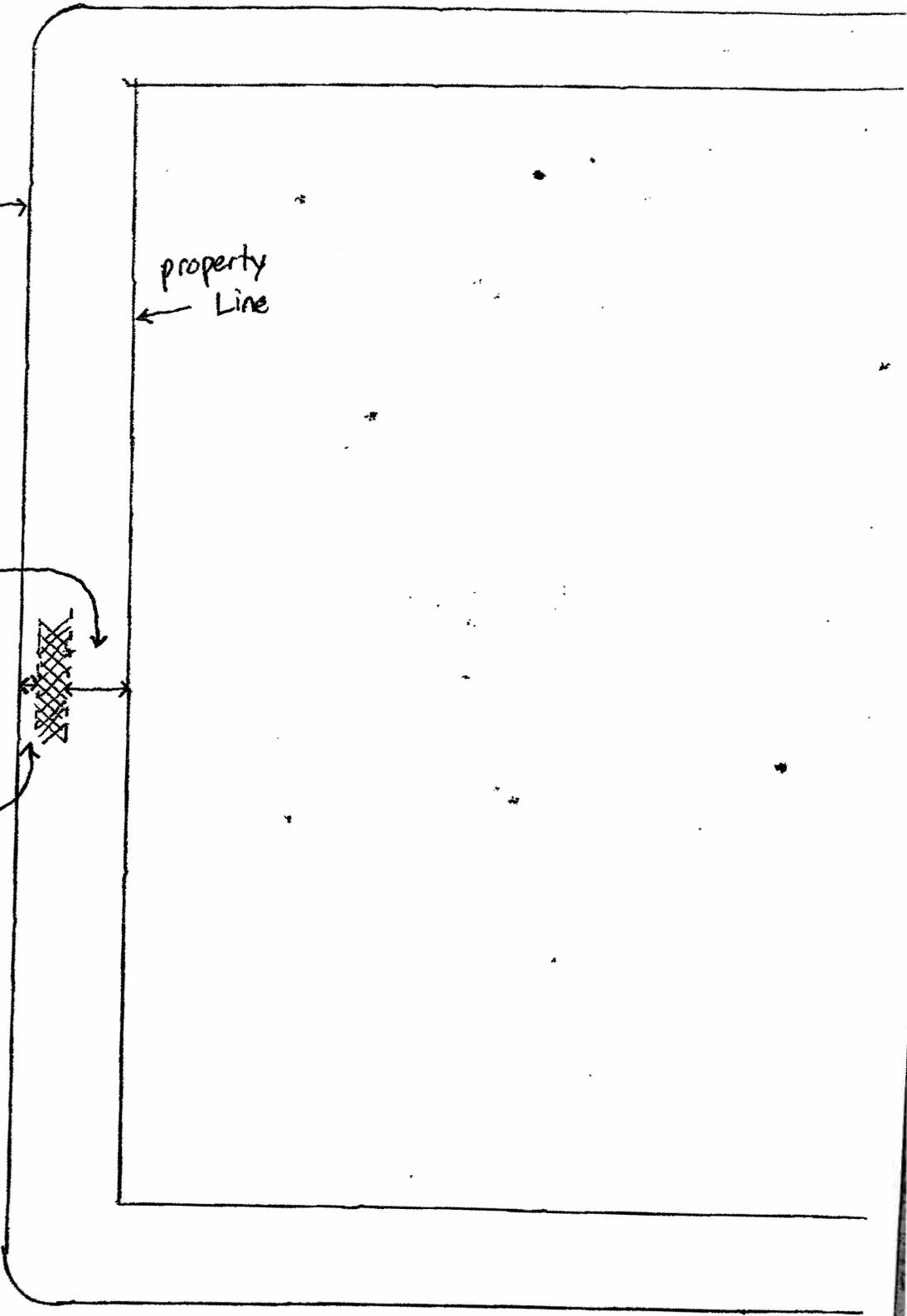


EXHIBIT  
C

