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# FYI – SALEM ORDINANCES REGARDING SIDEWALKS

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This is the City of Salem ordinance regarding your responsibility and liability as a homeowner to maintain the sidewalks which abut your property. This includes tripping hazards, plants which grow onto your property, slippery conditions, crumbling walkways, etc

## **78.154. Sidewalk Repairs; Duties of Abutting Owner and City.**

- (a) Duties of Property Owner. Except as provided in this section, it shall be the duty of every property owner to maintain, in compliance with the standards adopted by the Director pursuant to SRC 78.152(a), all sidewalks that abut the owner's property in good repair and acceptable condition. It shall be the duty of every property owner to maintain in good repair and acceptable condition all walkways and driveways located between the curblineline and the right-of-way line. It shall be the duty of every owner of property abutting a sidewalk, upon acquiring actual knowledge that a defective or dangerous condition in the sidewalk exists that may have been caused by trees located in public rights-of-way, to notify the Director of the existence, location and nature of the condition

## **78.158. Liability for Damages.**

- (a) The owner of property adjacent to a defective sidewalk shall be liable to any person suffering bodily injuries, property damage, or both, as a result of any breach of the duty imposed upon the owner under SRC 78.154.

## **78.220. Duty of Property Owners to Keep Sidewalks Safe, Clean, Etc.**

- (a) It shall be the duty of the owners, lessees, and occupants of all property abutting upon or adjacent to any sidewalk to keep such sidewalk clean and clear of ice, snow, dirt, vegetation, debris, or obstructions for the safe use of the public at all times.
- (b) The owners, lessees, and occupants shall be liable to any person suffering bodily injuries or property damage as a result of any breach of a duty imposed under subsection (a) of this section.
- (d) Neither the City nor its officers, employees, or agents acting in the scope of their duties shall be liable to any person having a remedy under subsection (b) of this section.
- (e) Whenever any owner, lessee, or occupant of any property neglects to perform the duty imposed under subsection (a) of this section, the Director shall issue a notice and order the owner, lessee, or occupant to remedy such neglect, and in case the person then fails to make such sidewalk safe or to clean the same or to clear the same of ice, snow, dirt, vegetation, debris, or obstructions within such time as the Director may have specified in the notice and order, then the Director shall proceed as provided in SRC 78.300. (Ord No. 4629; Ord No. 12-83; Ord No. 17-92; Ord No. 72- 2002; Ord No. 99-07) 78.230.

