



BURLINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
1 North Avenue
Burlington, Vermont 05401

Michael E. Schirling
Chief of Police

Phone (802) 658-2704
Fax (802) 865-7579
TTY/TDD (802) 658-2700

TO: City Council
FROM: Michael E. Schirling, Chief of Police
CC: Burlington Police Commission
RE: Proposal to establish a pilot project for a six-foot pedestrian right of way in the Inner City Fire District
DATE: May 4, 2010

In response to a variety of complaints and concerns about persons seated, laying down, and in a host of other stationary positions on the sidewalks in the downtown, we are requesting the creation of a pilot project including a new ordinance to create a pedestrian right of way (the sidewalk in front of businesses and buildings) to enhance public safety and provide unencumbered passage for all pedestrians, including those who are frail or who have disabilities.

The proposed "right of way" would extend six (6) feet from the edge of buildings onto the sidewalk and mirror the provisions now in place within nine (9) feet of buildings on the Church Street Marketplace.

We propose to make the ordinance effective upon passage with an option to revisit its effectiveness within a specified period of time at the Council's discretion.