



CITY OF BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

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Downtown Business Regulations Modified During Reconstruction

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, WA, Feb. 14, 2011 – Business owners in the Winslow area will get a break during the street reconstruction project this spring and summer. The City has applied for a special event permit and a sign variance to help ease the regulations for existing businesses in downtown while construction is occurring.

Businesses affected by construction impacts will be able to place sandwich board signs off-site, increase the size of window signs and banners, and hang banners and signs on temporary construction fencing. Existing businesses will also be able to expand to include temporary uses (such as mobile food stands), or they can use the right-of-way to bring attention to their business through sidewalk sales or other temporary means.

“The City recognizes that businesses will be vulnerable during the Winslow Way reconstruction,” said Chris Wierzbicki, project administrator for the reconstruction. “Hopefully this flexibility will encourage the existing businesses to do things that ordinarily would not be allowed in order to help them remain open and viable during the project.”

Businesses do not have to apply or pay any fees. The signs and uses cannot create a hazard or interfere with the construction project, but otherwise businesses are encouraged to be creative. “Our intent is to limit any safety concerns, but let the business community take it from there,” said Wierzbicki, who can be contacted with any questions.

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