

**AN ORDINANCE REGARDING THE PROHIBITION OF PANHANDLING,  
SOLICITATION AND OTHER ACTIVITIES FROM LOCATIONS DEEMED UNSAFE**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this section is to preserve the public order, to protect the citizens of Norwich and to ensure the safe and uninterrupted passage of both pedestrian and vehicular traffic, without unconstitutionally impinging upon protected speech, expression or conduct.

**DEFINITIONS**

For purpose of this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

1. *Ask, Beg, or Solicit Alms* includes the spoken, written, or printed word or such other act conducted for the purpose of obtaining an immediate donation or money or thing of value.
2. Panhandle includes asking, begging, or soliciting alms.
3. Unsafe Location means any roadway or roadway medians, including areas immediately adjacent to the roadway or roadway median, that have been designated by the traffic authority as a place where the presence of pedestrians is hazardous to the safe travel of persons or traffic.

**PROHIBITED LOCATION**

No person may panhandle or conduct any other activity from an unsafe location, as defined herein. The traffic authority or designee shall submit the list of the unsafe locations, which list may be revised from time to time as circumstances warrant, to the Town Clerk, which list shall be posted in City Hall and on the City's Website.

**INTERPRETATION OF PROVISIONS**

1. No provision of this chapter shall be interpreted or construed to prohibit speech, expression or conduct protected by the laws or Constitution of the United States or the laws or Constitution of the State of Connecticut.
2. No provision of this chapter shall be interpreted or construed to prohibit the installation, construction, repair and/or maintenance of roadways, roadway medians, or utilities located above, upon or beneath such roadways,. Roadway medians or areas immediately adjacent thereto.

**PENALTIES FOR OFFENSES**

1. Upon a finding that a person is in violation of any provision of this ordinance, a written warning shall be issued.
2. Upon a finding of a second and subsequent violation of any provision of this ordinance, a fine of \$99 shall be imposed and the violation shall be deemed to be an infraction.

**RESERVED**

This section is reserved for future use.

Alderman Mark Bettencourt  
Alderman Bill Nash