



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10007

Executive Order No. 22

April 13, 1995

SIDEWALK CORNER CLEARANCES

By the power vested in me as Mayor of the City of New York, it is hereby ordered:

Section 1. Definitions. For purposes of this Executive Order, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(a) "Corner" shall mean the area created by extending the building line to the curb.

(b) "Corner Quadrant" shall mean the area from ten feet of either side of the corner as defined in subdivision a of this section.

Section 2. Purpose. The City's sidewalks serve an essential role in our communities because they provide pedestrian access in a City renowned for being walkable. They also contain numerous structures and objects important to our transportation system, and to public health, safety and welfare, such as bus stop shelters, subway entrances, traffic signs, lamp posts, waste baskets and fire hydrants. Other structures and objects on the sidewalk include newsstands, sidewalk cafes, street vendors' carts, fruit and vegetable stands, works of art and planters. However, corners that are congested with structures and objects create pedestrian gridlock which may ultimately bottle up a whole block of sidewalk. Congested corners also raise serious traffic and safety concerns: when structures and objects block the corner, pedestrians spill out onto the street and are in danger of being hit by passing vehicles. A Streetscape Task Force comprised of various City agency representatives has studied this issue and has concluded that the situation on the City's sidewalks would be vastly improved through the adoption of a consistent approach to the placement of structures and objects on the City's sidewalks. The Streetscape Task Force also concluded that City agencies should not authorize private individuals to place structures and objects in the corner and the corner quadrant, and that as structures and objects located on the sidewalks by City agencies are themselves

replaced, they, too, should be moved out of the corner and the corner quadrant to the extent that such relocation would not jeopardize the health and safety of the public. Other entities not subject to the jurisdiction of the City such as the State and federal governments also should be asked to cooperate in keeping the corner and the corner quadrant as clear as possible of any obstructions.

Section 3. Sidewalk Corner Clearance Policy. It is hereby established that to the maximum extent possible, and in a manner that is consistent with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as such provisions may be amended from time to time, structures and objects should not be placed in the corner and the corner quadrant, and that all agencies should (a) exercise their authority to issue or enter into licenses, permits, concessions, franchises, revocable consents or other similar approvals, or any contracts, so as to facilitate the clearance of structures and objects from the corner and the corner quadrant; and (b) replace structures and objects under City ownership in the corner and the corner quadrant with structures and objects outside of the corner and the corner quadrant to the extent that such relocation would not jeopardize the health and safety of the public.

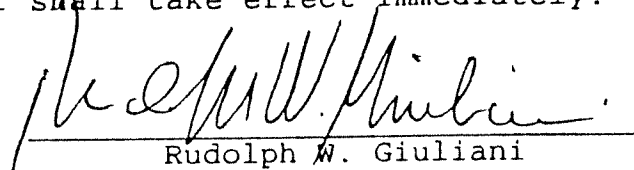
Section 4. Implementation. (a) Each agency head shall take appropriate steps, including, but not limited to, establishing an agency-wide policy, promulgating rules or proposing legislation, to provide that no license, permit, concession, franchise, revocable consent or other similar approval, or contract, within the jurisdiction of such agency shall be granted or renewed that would authorize placement of any structure or object in the corner and the corner quadrant. Any such provision shall not prohibit the placement of structures or objects at the building line of such corner and corner quadrant; provided, however, that the placement of such structure or object at the building line leaves an adequate clear path for pedestrians. Each affected agency shall provide the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Community Relations with a plan no later than June 15, 1995, which will outline how the agency intends to implement the provisions of this Order, and the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Community Relations shall be responsible for coordinating such implementation.

(b) As each agency replaces structures or objects under City ownership, such structures and objects should be moved outside of the corner and the corner quadrant to the extent that such relocation would not jeopardize the health and safety of the public.

(c) The Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Community Relations shall seek cooperative arrangements with the State and federal governments, and other entities that are not subject to the jurisdiction of the City of New York, to ensure that

the corner and the corner quadrant are cleared of structures and objects, and such arrangements shall provide for such entities to (1) refrain from placing new structures and objects in the corner and the corner quadrant; and (2) replace structures and objects in the corner and the corner quadrant with structures and objects outside of the corner and the corner quadrant to the extent that such relocation would not jeopardize the health and safety of the public.

Section 5. This Order shall take effect immediately.



Rudolph W. Giuliani
Mayor