

The Public Right-of-Way

How can I use it?

Use this quick reference to see what is and isn't allowed in Bend's public right-of-way.

Q: Can I put my business displays, seating and decorations on the sidewalk or in the alleyway in front of my business?

A: In the Downtown District, businesses may:

- Place planters and merchandise displays on sidewalks adjacent to their businesses; provided, that an accessible sidewalk passageway of **6 feet is provided**. Décor should be close to the business building and not protruding into public ROW.
- If décor is in Brooks Alley and protrudes into public ROW, the City of Bend may ask businesses to put décor on casters/wheels to roll décor close to the building when business is closed and when events take place in the alley.
- Businesses in the Downtown District that do not sell food or beverages may place chairs and tables adjacent to their businesses; provided, that an accessible passageway of 6 feet is provided.
- Businesses that sell food or beverages must obtain a **Sidewalk Café License** prior to placing tables and chairs in public ROW adjacent to their businesses.

Q: I want to charge customers to take them to and from locations in and around Bend. How do I start those business operations?

Licenses are needed for transportation network companies like Uber and Lyft, taxi companies, pedicab/cycle pub companies and carriage ride companies. For info: licensing@bendoregon.gov or (541) 388-5580 ext. 8.

Public Right-of-Way (ROW)

Public rights-of-way generally describes land that is owned by the city or private property otherwise meant for public use. Some, but not all, examples include a public road, a private road that allows public use, sidewalk, planter strip or landscaped area.

City Property

This includes all real property, land and public facilities owned, leased (either to the City or by the City), controlled, or managed by the City of Bend including City parking lots or parking structures, but excluding City owned or managed rights-of-way.



Q: How do I get a parking permit in Bend? How do I rent a parking space in front of my business for an event or a construction project? How do I get a residential parking pass for my home?

For parking, loading, temporary use of parking spaces for less than one week, etc., get a **parking permit**. For more info, contact the Parking Services Division at parking@bendoregon.gov or (541) 312-4910 . Food trucks cannot park and vend from public spaces for business events.

Q: Is it legal for people to sleep on the sidewalks? Is busking/street performing allowed on public property? How long can people sit on the sidewalks in front of my business?

A: All of this is allowed citywide as long as 6 feet of passageway is accessible in the downtown district and 5 feet of passageway for areas outside of the downtown district and inside Bend city limits. For more info regarding camping and the specifics of time, place and manner restrictions, [visit this website](#).

Q: How do I get a permit to complete work in public roadways, sidewalks, alleyways, etc.? I've been hired to complete work in public roadways, sidewalks, alleyways, etc. How do I get access to the necessary permit applications?

For construction and utility work, get a **ROW Permit**. For questions, contact Private Development Engineering Division at engineering@bendoregon.gov or (541) 388-5580 ext. 4.

Contractors are only able to apply for ROW permits and perform work in public right-of-way if they have an active **Qualified Contractor License**. For more info, contact licensing@bendoregon.gov or (541) 388-5580 ext. 8.

Q: I see businesses have built out structures/patios in parking spaces and in alleyways in front of their businesses. How do I go about doing the same thing for my business?

These are called parklets! Permanent expansion of restaurant, retail, or personal services business space into on-street parking spaces, loading zones or alleys next to the business for periods of longer than one week are allowed in the downtown district only. For **Commercial Parklet Licenses**, contact licensing@bendoregon.gov or (541) 388-5580 ext. 8.

Q: I'd like to put tables and chairs on the sidewalk in front of my business for my customers to use when they purchase food and/or drinks from my business. What do I need to do?

Temporary expansion of restaurant customer seating onto sidewalks next to the business is allowed when business is open as long as 5 feet of accessible passageway is maintained. For **Sidewalk Café Licenses**. Contact licensing@bendoregon.gov or (541) 388-5580 ext. 8.



Q: How do I get permission to host a community event on roadways in Bend? My event is located primarily in a park, but the routes for event participants to use will impact roadways, sidewalks, alleys, etc. Do I need a permit from the City of Bend?

Special Event Permits are needed for the following types of events:

- 150+ attendees expected, open to the public, and located in public right-of-way, also known as ROW (e.g. Summer Festival, parades, etc.)
- 150+ attendees expected, open to the public, located out of public ROW, but will impact public ROW (e.g. race events that are staged in parks or other areas, but the race routes impact sidewalks, alleys, roadways, etc.)
- 150+ attendees expected, located on City property, no impact to public ROW

For info, contact the Licensing Division at licensing@bendoregon.gov or (541) 388-5580 ext. 8.

Q: I heard the City of Bend has a block party trailer for neighborhoods to use. How can I rent that trailer?

The Bend Neighborhood Block Parties program is in development. Contact the Communications Department at communications@bendoregon.gov for more info.

Q: Can I sell my wares on a sidewalk or side of the road? Can I sell my wares in a park? Can I park my food/ice cream truck in a parking space or near a park and sell from there?

Vending is only allowed in public ROW if the vendor has a Sidewalk Vendor License or if they are part of a permitted event in public ROW. Ice cream trucks and businesses of a similar nature must stay transient and drive around to customers; they cannot park and vend in public ROW for longer periods.

Food trucks must contact the Planning Division prior to beginning operations. They cannot park in public right-of-way and vend from there.

Questions can be directed to licensing@bendoregon.gov or (541) 388-5580 ext. 8.

Food Truck Inquiries can be directed to planning@bendoregon.gov or (541) 388-5580 ext. 3.

Q: I want to inquire about an activity in a local park. Should I contact the City of Bend?

Public parks are not managed by the City of Bend, but the City of Bend partners with Bend Parks and Recreation District to regulate public right-of-way operations near park properties. Contact Bend Parks and Recreation District at info@bendparksandrec.org or (541) 389-7275 for more info.



Accommodation Information for People with Disabilities

To obtain this information in an alternate format such as Braille, large print, electronic formats, etc. Please contact Lorelei Williams at lwilliams@bendoregon.gov or 541-388-5580 ext. 8. Relay Users Dial 7-1-1.