

Tips for doing business Downtown

Downtown Port Angeles is the only Central Business District (CBD) in the community. It is a special 'people place' dominated by local business owners and local shoppers. Profits generated by these businesses circulate within the local economy and the variety of businesses help stop the leakage of local dollars to areas outside of the community. Here are some helpful hints to assist you in doing business Downtown.

Certificate of Occupancy permits are required for all businesses in the city

- Applications are available at City Hall's Community Development counter.
Permit fee is \$150. \$50 for building inspection/ \$100 PBIA Initiation fee.

Sign Ordinance contains important information for Downtown Businesses.

Downtown is pedestrian oriented and signs that would be used in areas with higher speed limits aren't needed. The Sign Ordinance, which is available at the city or from the PADA Office, lists all permitted and prohibited signs with descriptions and definitions to help you create and use allowable signage. We encourage you to review this ordinance before you invest money and effort in producing and installing signage.

- Some **permitted** signage includes projecting signs, wall signs, and awnings. A-frame signs are permitted on a limited basis. All of these have size limitations and most require a permit from the City.
- **Prohibited** signage includes all signs that have no permanent attachment to a building or the ground including banners, pennants, and other fluttering devices as well as signage for a non-operating business.
- Most signage requires a permit and we strongly recommend checking about your signage before investing your money. To save money you may want to apply for all sign permits at one time.

City Right-of-way

The sidewalk, from the edge of the building you will occupy to the curb is city property and any signs, merchandise, flower pots, etc. placed there require a City Right-of-way permit.

PADA has Design Assistance

The Port Angeles Downtown Association offers 'Storefront Design Assistance' to all businesses located within the Central Business District. The program consists of low-cost or free design assistance and help with the design and permitting process. This program provides:

- Financial assistance, up to \$300.00 in matching funds, for storefront improvements and,
- Expertise and recommendations for painting, window treatment, signage, removal of façade elements and adding or replacing awnings.

To participate in this program contact the PADA office at 457-9614.

