## REMOVING BARRIERS TO BUSINESS and BUSINESS OWNER'S PERSPECTIVE

Presented by Donald R. Warschak, P.E. City Manager

RAVEN KOCUREK AND TRAVIS KOCUREK OWNERS OF HOUND SONG BREWING



Accessibility

Parking Ordinance

Alcohol Ordinance



## **Downtown Pedestrian Projects**

- The City of Columbus has completed two projects within the downtown area.
- Purpose of the projects was to improve access to downtown business by replacing broken sidewalks and improve ADA accessibility in the area.
- Many of the buildings in the targeted areas were constructed between the 1880s and 1920s.
- The area is listed on the National Register of Historic Districts.

#### **Downtown Pedestrian Projects**



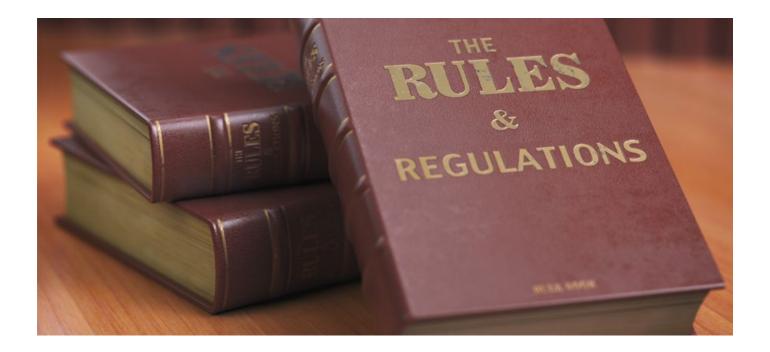
## **Downtown Revitalization Projects**

- 2012 Downtown Sidewalk Improvements
  - Project Scope consisted of replacement of 2 blocks of sidewalk in the Historic Downtown Area
- Funding
  - 2012 Texas Capital Fund Downtown Revitalization Program Grant -\$150,000.
  - Grant from the Columbus Community & Industrial Development Corporation - \$88,818.29.
  - Local Funds \$14,065.92
  - Total Cost \$252,884.21

## **Downtown Revitalization Projects**

- 2022 Downtown Revitalization Project
  - Project Scope consisted of replacement of approximately 3 blocks of sidewalk in the Historic Downtown Area
  - Provided an additional sidewalk route called Artist Alley connecting the Art Center with Walnut Street and the businesses in that area.
- Funding
  - 2022 Downtown Revitalization TDA Program Grant \$297,788.25
  - Local Funds \$49,500.00
  - Total Cost \$347,288.25

#### Ordinances



# **Parking Ordinance**

- The City of Columbus Code of Ordinances has specified parking requirements based on use.
- These requirements are used to calculate the minimum number of off-street parking spaces.
- Many of the buildings in the downtown areas were constructed between the 1880s and 1920s and required very little parking.
- To assist business owners with parking requirements the City amended it's parking ordinance for specific areas.

# **Parking Ordinance**

- The City of Columbus created a corridor overlay to exempt business owners within this area from the parking requirements.
- Business owners are allowed to use street side parking within City and state rights of way at will.

## **Parking Ordinance**

DOWNTOWN PARKING VARIANCE OVERLAY

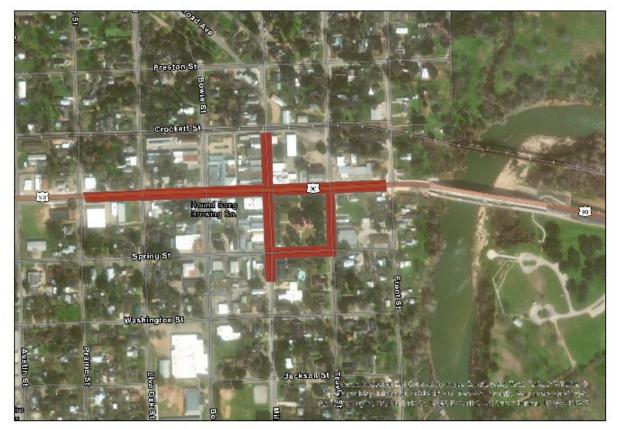


# **Alcohol Ordinance**

- The City of Columbus Ordinances has specified location requirements regulating the sale of alcoholic beverages.
- These requirements prohibit the sale of alcohol within:
  - Three hundred feet of a church or public hospital; or
  - One thousand feet of a public school.
- The City does have the authority to grant location variances and adopt them. However, this still presented a potential problem to business owners who were purchasing property first, then applying for an alcohol variance.
- To assist business owners with this uncertainty, the City established by ordinance a zone in the downtown area that alcohol could be served without any further variance requests required.
- The City of Columbus expanded the use regulations in the Business District to allow for breweries, distilleries and wineries.

### **Alcohol Ordinance**

ALCOHOL VARIANCE OVERLAY



#### QUESTIONS

