

ORDINANCE No. 179843 AS AMENDED

Establish registration and reporting requirements for Lobbying Entities and City Officials
(Ordinance; add Code Chapter 2.12)

The City of Portland ordains:

Section 1. The Council finds:

1. Robust public involvement in legislative and administrative decision making is essential to ensuring a representative city government.
2. Public involvement includes individuals who speak on their own behalf and other individuals who are authorized to speak and act on behalf of a group of citizens, organization, or business.
3. A group of citizens, organization, or business that authorize individuals to communicate to city officials on their behalf are called “lobbying entities.” Currently, Portland city government does not require lobbying entities to register their existence and report their lobbying activities.
4. To ensure a fair legislative and administrative decision making processes, it is essential that Council establish a system to register lobbying entities and for lobbying entities to report the lobbying activities of those authorized to speak and act on their behalf.
5. Regulation of lobbying entities establishes the transparency that fair and open government warrants by making public the views of lobbying entities and the actions of their authorized representatives.
6. The City has a compelling interest in encouraging open government processes to avoid even the appearance of favoritism. Public registration and reporting of the extent of lobbying entities to influence City decision making is essential to assuring a City government that is accountable to its citizens.
7. City recognized neighborhood associations and business districts, which abide by disclosure standards referenced in City Code section 3.96.020 G. should, in an effort to further increase transparency, make every effort to post meetings agendas and minutes in a centralized location easy for public access.
8. A local campaign poll, conducted on September 7, 2004, indicates support by citizens for initiatives that make transparent the influence of lobbyists on legislative and administrative decisions by city government.
9. While Portland prides itself on its efforts to achieve government accountability and transparency, the City is not alone in its endeavor to make visible the influence of

citizen opinion on city officials. Many jurisdictions, including Metro, the State of Oregon, San Diego, Los Angeles, New York, King County and Chicago have adopted successful systems for registering lobbyists.

10. The Council intends to provide a grace period during the first two calendar quarters following the effective date of the ordinance during which the ordinance applies but no fines will be imposed for violations of the Chapter. However, the City Auditor is encouraged to send warnings and information to those who maybe in violation of the Chapter.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Council directs:

- a. City Code Title 2 is amended by adding Chapter 2.12 as set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.
- b. The Office of Neighborhood Involvement with direction from Council will explore means to consolidate the meeting minutes and official statements from city recognized neighborhood associations and business districts in a website that can be accessible to the public.
- c. The City Auditor will accept the registrations from lobbying entities and reports from city officials beginning on the effective date of this ordinance and will require submission of lobbyist reports for the calendar quarter beginning April 1, 2006.
- d. To give adequate time for awareness about the ordinance and compliance with the lobbyist registration and reporting requirements, the City Auditor will not seek penalties or enforcement for code violations occurring before October 1, 2006.
- e. The Commissioner of Public Utilities, with input from stakeholders and the City Auditor, will review the implementation and effectiveness of the established lobbyist registration system and report to Council by October 31, 2006 and October 31, 2007. The report may evaluate:
 - i. The enforcement mechanisms of the registration system
 - ii. The reporting requirements for the system
 - iii. The classification of a lobbyist as designated by the enacted system
 - iv. The exemptions specified in the system
 - v. The hourly threshold per quarter
 - vi. Any other issues that impact the effectiveness of the system

Section 2. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect on April 1, 2006.

Passed by Council, December 21, 2005

Commissioner Sam Adams
Commissioner Dan Saltzman
Commissioner Erik Sten
Prepared by Mary Jo Markle
December 7, 2005

Gary Blackmer
Auditor of the City of Portland
By /S/ Susan Parsons

Deputy

BACKING SHEET INFORMATION

AGENDA NO. 1564 1602-2005

ACTION TAKEN:

DECEMBER 14, 2005 PASSED TO SECOND READING AS AMENDED DECEMBER 21, 2005 9:30 AM

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION/COUNCIL DOCUMENT NO. 179843 AS AMENDED

COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
	YEAS	NAYS
ADAMS	X	
LEONARD		X
SALTZMAN	X	
STEN	X	
POTTER		X