

Save Our Santa Cruz Sidewalks from Stupid Laws On October 24th, new Downtown Ordinances will:

- +++ **FORBID PERFORMANCE, TABLING, ART DISPLAY, VENDING, SITTING, AND SPARECHANGING** on 95% of downtown sidewalks & 100% of sidewalks near buildings elsewhere.
- +++ **FORCE ALL SUCH ACTIVITY TO THE CURB** creating conflict with arriving motorists leaving their cars, unhealthy space for street performers, & a move to drive out vibrant street life.
- +++ **LIMIT IT** to a handful of constricted 12 square feet spaces per block.
- +++ **LIMIT IT** to 1 hour per day in any of the now very limited spots
- +++ **REQUIRE ADDITIONAL 12' SEPARATION SPACES** between these activities on the sidewalk
- +++ **REQUIRE DAYS OF LEAD TIME AND SPECIAL PERMITS** for any exceptions to this rules.
- +++ **GIVE CONSERVATIVE STAFF & POLICE A VETO** over who uses the public sidewalk.
- +++ **SET UP HUGE "WALK THROUGH ONLY" ZONES** within 14' of buildings, street corners, intersections, kiosks, drinking fountains, public telephones, public benches, public trash containers, directory signs, sculptures or artwork, ATM-style machines, outside street cafes, vending carts, and fences.
- +++ **EMPOWER POLICE AND HOSTILE MERCHANTS** to write \$200-400 citations for traditionally innocent street presence, prescribing up to \$1000 fine and 1 year in jail for 2nd "offense".
- +++ **INCREASE VISIBLE POLICE SQUAD PRESENCE** to pressure, cite, and/or arrest violators.
- +++ **SELECTIVELY TARGET MINORITIES, HOMELESS PEOPLE, & POOR FOLKS** who don't "fit in" with the *Downtown Association's* vision of a proper "safe" Santa Cruz.
- +++ **BAN BOUNCING A BALL** throwing a Frisbee, or hackeysacking downtown.
- +++ **BAN USING ERASIBLE CHALK** whether for art or political messages.
- +++ **BAN SPREADING OUT A BLANKET** on the sidewalk, traditional and necessary for the poor.
- +++ **BAN SITTING DOWN ON THE LIP OF A CEMENT BERM** around the trees.
- +++ **BAN SITTING NEXT TO A BUILDING** even if closed or vacant.
- +++ **FALSELY LABEL AS "SAFETY CONCERNS"** traditional friendly Santa Cruz activity to empty the sidewalks of uses that don't involve buying in stores or restaurants.
- +++ **CREATE A HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT** for poor and homeless folks and deny them the rights others have to use the public space to assembly, rest, communicate, and enjoy.
- +++ **GIVE CRANKS A VETO ON STREET MUSIC** by simply complaining.
- +++ **EMPOWER POLICE** to expand enforcement—which originally created these laws.
- +++ **FALSELY SPREAD THE "PUBLIC SAFETY" MYTHOLOGY** that *Take Back Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz Neighbors, the SCPD, the DTA, Needle-Free Zone,* & other right-wing special interest groups are using to paint a scary picture downtown that encourages further repressive action.
- +++ **DRIVE AWAY ARTISTS & PERFORMERS** leaving only the militant and the mercenary.

SAY NO TO STERILITY & PSUEDO-SAFETY IN DOWNTOWN SANTA CRUZ

- +++ **E-mail City Council** at [citycouncil \[at\] cityofsantacruz.com](mailto:citycouncil@cityofsantacruz.com) and demand these ordinances be reconsidered for cost, effectiveness, impact, and unintended consequences by citizen committees with input from those impacted.
- +++ **Use your video phone** to show the new harassment on the streets downtown. **Post on Santa Cruz Indymedia & You-Tube**, e.g. <https://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2013/10/08/18744527.php> . Send to HUFF: info@huffsantacruz.org
- +++ **Spread** opposition; Write local papers; Use Facebook & Twitter;. Ordinances become final on **October 24th**.
- Support Businesses who Support Public Space for all; Don't Support those who would privatize & sterilize.**
- +++ **Post your own accounts** of discrimination downtown. Document Host & Police Abuses. *Coffee Roasting Co. & Starbucks* recently banned large backpacks; *New Leaf & Verve* reportedly banned homeless-looking customers.
- +++ **Come to HUFF 11 AM every Wednesday** at 703 Pacific to plan for the protests ahead.
- +++ **Witness and support other street performers** when they face harassment from authorities.
- +++ **Get familiar with the Downtown Ordinances**, often misquoted by police and hosts. Copies available on-line at https://www.indybay.org/uploads/2010/08/29/deadlydowntownordinances_8-27-10.pdf .