

Order 164-08/09
Passage, as amended 3/16/09 9-0

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CITY OF PORTLAND
IN THE CITY COUNCIL

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**ORDER DESIGNATING CONGRESS STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT AND
AMENDING THE MAP OF HISTORIC DISTRICTS WITH LANDMARKS AND
HISTORIC LANDSCAPE DISTRICTS**

WHEREAS, the City Council is authorized pursuant to Portland City Code Chapter 14, Section 622 to designate a defined area in the City as an historic district; and

WHEREAS, the Portland Historic Preservation Board and Planning Board have recommended the designation of the Congress Street Historic District; and

WHEREAS, the designation of the Congress Street Historic District will fulfill a stated objective of the Comprehensive Plan to protect the City's historic resources through ongoing identification and designation of eligible landmarks and districts; and

WHEREAS, the designation will formally recognize the unique history and architecture that define Congress Street and its immediate environs; and

WHEREAS, the designation will provide future generations the opportunity to experience the many layers and periods of development represented along Portland's "Main Street;" and

WHEREAS, the designation will ensure that alterations to historic structures within the district are compatible with the buildings' historic character and will prevent the incremental loss of character that can occur through small inappropriate changes over time; and

WHEREAS, the designation will ensure that new development within the downtown is commensurate in quality and generally compatible in character with the historic structures that define the area; and

WHEREAS, the designation will stabilize and enhance property values and economic vitality by increasing the attractiveness of the area as a place to live, work and do business; and

WHEREAS, the designation will increase the attractiveness of the downtown and arts district to tourists, helping to spread tourism dollars from the Old Port to a wider portion of the City; and

WHEREAS, the designation will provide property owners access to federal and state tax incentives available for the rehabilitation of historic properties.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY ORDERED that, pursuant to Chapter 14, Section 622, the Portland City Council hereby designates the area outlined on the attached map as the Congress Street Historic District; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the map of Historic Districts with Landmarks and Historic Landscape Districts is hereby amended to include the Congress Street Historic District as set forth on the attached map; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the Historic Preservation Board shall file an annual report with the City Council on or before April 15, 2009 describing the cases, issues and experience with the Congress Street Historic District.