

## Minor Privilege Permit Program

The Baltimore City Department of Transportation (DOT) administers the Minor Privilege Program, which provides guidelines on what can and cannot be placed outdoors within the public right-of-way.



### What is a Minor Privilege Permit?

A minor privilege permit lets business owners, homeowners and others place private items in the public right-of-way.

Some examples include signs, awnings, tables and chairs, dumpsters, sidewalk displays, barber poles, lanterns, and decorative objects. Each one of these items needs a *minor privilege permit* so it can be placed in the public right-of-way. They may also require *building permits or zoning approval*. Certain items such as an A-Frame type sign or statues are not allowed.

### What is the fee for a Minor Privilege Permit?

The cost depends on the item, its size, and how the area is zoned. While some items require a one-time flat fee, others require an annual fee. The fee structure and the list of allowable items fall under the jurisdiction of the Baltimore City Board of Estimates, which approves each use and hears appeals. Permission to place certain large items permanently may require a City Council franchise ordinance.

### Why Should I Obtain a Minor Privilege Permit?

As a property owner, you must file for a permit when you want to put any

private items or structural elements in the public right-of-way. Be proactive! If you want a minor privilege permit or if you think you have something in the public right-of-way, regardless of the length of time it has been there, contact the Minor Privilege Section at 410-396-3346. A representative will advise you on what you need to do in order to comply with the law.

*Many insurance companies will not knowingly insure properties that have illegal objects attached, affixed or displayed!*



### How Can Citizens Help?

You are our eyes and ears! To report violations, please call **311** or visit 311 online at [www.Baltimorecity.gov](http://www.Baltimorecity.gov). You can also call the Minor Privilege Section at 410-396-3346.