



TO: Elizabeth A. Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Peter Huffman, Planning and Development Services Director *PA*
Kurtis D. Kingsolver, P.E., Public Works Director/City Engineer *kk*
COPY: Economic Development Committee
Tadd Wille, Deputy City Manager
Jeff Robinson, Community and Economic Development Director
PRESENTER: Jana Magoon, Planning Manager; Jennifer Kammerzell, Principal Engineer
SUBJECT: Outdoor Dining Options
DATE: April 27, 2021

PRESENTATION TYPE:
Informational Briefing

SUMMARY:

Planning and Development Services (PDS) and Public Works (PW) staff will present an update on the temporary programs available to businesses during the State’s response to COVID-19. The presentation will include the Curbside Café and Market program, Sidewalk Café program, and temporary Food Loading Zones. Staff will discuss program metrics and future opportunities.

BACKGROUND:

During the early phases of the COVID-19 pandemic, PDS and PW undertook several initiatives to assist the business community in addressing the impacts caused by the pandemic. In Phase 1 of the Stay Home, Stay Safe order, the City introduced temporary Food Loading Zones and ADA parking stalls. In Phase 2 Safe Start order, the City promoted the temporary Curbside Café and Market program and the existing temporary Sidewalk Café program. The Community and Economic Development Department and Downtown Tacoma Partnership also partnered on the 8th Street Eatery that opened a street to pedestrians and customers.

Curbside café/markets, also known as streateries or parklets, are similar to sidewalk cafés but located in a parking space in the right-of-way. They function as an extension to an existing restaurant’s seating area or retail store. Private use of the public right-of-way typically requires entering into a formal agreement with the City, however, as a pilot program, this requirement is waived in an effort to support local businesses affected by closures and seating limitations related to the State’s Safe Start phased reopening plan.

ISSUE:

The presentation will inform this Committee and receive input regarding the existing programs. The discussion will include results from participation, feedback from businesses, proposed timelines for program expansion consideration, and other areas of interest to the Committee.

ALTERNATIVES:

This is an information briefing only. There are no alternatives presented.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This is an informational briefing only. There are no fiscal impacts.

RECOMMENDATION:

This is an informational briefing only. There are no recommendations at this time.