



**TO:** Elizabeth A. Pauli, City Manager  
**FROM:** for Kurtis D. Kingsolver, P.E., Public Works Director/City Engineer  
**COPY:** Economic Development Committee; Tadd Wille, Deputy City Manager;  
Jeff Robinson, Community and Economic Development Director  
**PRESENTER:** Jennifer Kammerzell, Principal Engineer  
**SUBJECT:** Outdoor Dining Options  
**DATE:** November 9, 2021



**PRESENTATION TYPE:**

Informational Briefing

**SUMMARY:**

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 and sidewalk cafés. Staff will discuss a proposed framework and funding opportunities for expanding the Curbside Café and Market Program beyond the current temporary authorization.

**BACKGROUND:**

During the early phases of the COVID-19 crisis, PDS and PW undertook several initiatives to assist the business community in addressing the impacts caused by the pandemic. In Phase 1 Stay Home, Stay Safe, the City introduced temporary Food Loading Zones and ADA parking stalls. In Phase 2 Safe Start, 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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. The pilot program is currently scheduled to expire following the end of the City’s emergency declaration.

**ISSUE:**

The presentation will inform the Committee and receive Committee input regarding the proposed program framework. The discussion will include feedback from stakeholders, proposed program expansion consideration, funding opportunities, and other areas of interest to the EDC.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

This is an informational 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.