

Outdoor Dining Conditions:

All permits for outdoor dining are issued subject to the following conditions.

Design and Construction:

Sidewalk Layout Dimensional Table

Existing Sidewalk Width (measured from property line to curb)	Sidewalk Dining Allowed?	
< 8'0"	No, but see option for petition subject to Planning Authority approval*	
≥ 8'0"	Yes – up to 60% of sidewalk width	
Sidewalk Passage Type	Sidewalk Passage Required – clear and unobstructed:*	
	Width (minimum)	Height (minimum)
Standard sidewalk	4'0"	6'8"
Street corner	5'0"	6'8"

- Outdoor dining area shall not exceed 60% of the sidewalk width. For example, on a 15'0" wide sidewalk, width of dining area may not exceed 9'0".
- A continuous, unobstructed sidewalk passage from the outer boundary of the seating area to the curb must be maintained according to the dimensional table above. This width must always contain a continuous unobstructed passage width of at least four feet (4'-0"). In cases where the passage is not straight due to existing obstacles, additional width may be required to ensure that turns can be safely maneuvered. Any request to place outdoor seating in a way that requires existing straight passage to change is discouraged and entirely at the discretion of the City. Requests to relocate moveable street furniture will be considered.
- Egress from the building must be maintained free of obstruction per the building code and NFPA Life Safety Code.
- Permanent fixtures (such as, but not limited to, awnings, permanent lighting, decks or platforms) – require a building permit separate from the Outdoor Dining permit and are subject to approval by Planning Authority (see below "Additional Review and Regulation").
- Umbrellas are permitted without a permit. Umbrellas must be secured or weighted and must maintain the 6'8" minimum height clearance for sidewalk passage.

Barriers:

- Are preferred to be free-standing. Physical attachments to a building are subject to administrative review, especially in historic districts.
- Consisting of stanchions and ropes/chains are encourage. Sectional fencing is allowed, provided it exhibits a high degree of visual transparency (at least 50% open). Solid or opaque barriers are not allowed.
- Shall not exceed 42" in height.
- May not include commercial signage (such as advertisements).

*Petition for Exception for Special Circumstances:

If one or more Outdoor Dining Conditions cannot be met because of special circumstances, applicant may petition for an exception. Applicant should indicate on application form whether such a petition is being requested and provide explanation of need for exception. For example, if outdoor dining cannot be accommodated on the sidewalk, the business may petition the City to occupy public right-of-way near their establishment as an alternative location for outdoor dining purposes. In these cases, the applicant may have to compensate the City for the right to occupy that space. Requests shall be reviewed and approved by the Planning Authority on a case-by-case basis and shall take into consideration competing demands in the area.

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