



## CITY OF CITRUS HEIGHTS

# Temporary Outdoor Program



## TEMPORARY OUTDOOR PROGRAM GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES

PROGRAM PERIOD JUNE – DECEMBER 2020

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## Preface

On March 4, 2020 Governor Newsom issued a State of Emergency as a result of the threat of COVID-19, and on March 12, 2020, through Executive Order N-25-20, he directed all residents to heed any orders and guidance of state and local public health officials. Subsequently, on March 19, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-33-20 directing all residents to heed the State Public Health Officer's Stay-at-Home order which requires all residents to stay at home except for work in critical infrastructure sectors or otherwise to facilitate authorized necessary activities.

On April 14th, the State presented the Pandemic Roadmap, a four-stage plan for modifying the Stay-at-Home order. Stage 2 of the roadmap allows the opening dine-in restaurants and retail establishments with certain restrictions. On May 23, 2020, under the direction of Sacramento County Public Health Office, Citrus Heights restaurants are now able to provide in-dining service for restaurants who can meet the mandated six feet of separation between table setups. The recovery roadmap also encouraged the use of outdoor dining space.

To support these efforts and the safe return of dining out, the city of Citrus Heights has established criteria to allow restaurants and retailers to utilize their outdoor space.

## Program Overview

This outdoor dining program has been established to ensure restaurants and retailers have the greatest ability to operate successfully through the recovery process.

Restaurants with access to private sidewalks or private parking may utilize these areas for dining activities in accordance with guidelines published by California Department of Public Health: <https://covid19.ca.gov/pdf/guidance-dine-in-restaurants.pdf> (Dine-in Restaurants)

With property owner consent, up to 50% of private parking spaces counted for required parking may be converted to outdoor dining space, when the lot is immediately adjacent to the parent property. The proposed converted use must comply with public safety standards for emergency rescue, building access, and physical distancing requirements. Additionally, no parking for disabled persons may be repurposed for restaurant use unless the site has an overabundance of disabled parking and receives approval from the city's Building Official.

Landscaping and required buffer areas for the off-site parking spaces, shall not be used as expanded converted use for restaurants operations. There shall be no parking or outside seating in these areas.

To participate in the program, the business must have a valid Citrus Heights General Business License.

For questions regarding this program, please contact the Planning Division at (916) 727-4740 or by email [planning@citrusheights.net](mailto:planning@citrusheights.net).

## Property Owner Approval

Businesses should consult with the property owner in advance of utilizing outdoor space. The use of the outdoor space shall be authorized by the property owner and be in compliance with owner's requirements.

## General Requirements

While no permit from the City of Citrus Heights is required to utilize these temporary guidelines, the use of the outdoor space shall meet the requirements listed below.

### Outdoor activities shall:

1. Maintain the minimum accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disability Act (ADA).
2. Provide adequate pedestrian flow with a clearly marked, unobstructed, and durable pedestrian right-of-way, also known as a "pedestrian path" that meets required accessibility standards, of no less than six (6) feet.
  - The minimum distance of the pedestrian path shall be measured from the boundary of the dining area to the nearest obstruction i.e., tables, chairs, bus stop shelters, newsstands, existing planters, or similar.
  - No tables, chairs, umbrellas or other fixtures shall be permitted within six (6) feet of a pedestrian crosswalk.
3. Maintain unobstructed access to fire lanes, fire hydrants, fire hose connections for sprinkler systems, and entrances and exits of all building.
  - There shall be a minimum of forty (40) inches in distance separating the edge of a table or chair to a fire department connection.

### Operation and appearance

1. Outdoor area shall be aesthetically compatible with surrounding area.
2. Patron safety shall be considered when designing outdoor spaces and set-up within travel lanes or shall be prohibited.
3. Appropriate lighting of the sidewalk dining space is required if operating outside of daytime hours.
4. Use of removable barriers (planters, fencing, etc.) to define the dining space is permissible but should not be permanently affixed in such a manner that the site could not be restored to its original condition. At no time shall any barriers be within the public rights-of-way.
5. No heating, cooking or open flames are permitted in the sidewalk dining area. However, space heaters are permitted provided that they are an outdoor approved type, are located in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations, and are located at least two (2) feet from the edge of any umbrella canvas, any foliage, or any other flammable object or material.
6. No food preparation, plastic food displays, food storage, or refrigeration apparatus shall be allowed on the public right-of-way.
7. Umbrellas shall be no less than six (6) feet, eight (8) inches (eighty (80) inches) above the ground.

## Use of Tents, Shade Structures or Umbrellas

1. The following requirements shall apply to use of tents, umbrellas or shade structures:
  - Size limited to no larger than 400 square feet.
  - A property may have more than one tent but each tent must be separated by a minimum distance of 12 feet.
  - No part of structure shall encroach into the public rights-of-way or designated path of travel.
  - All legs must be weighted to a minimum of 40lbs and meet the following:
    - Weights must be securely attached to canopy roof and canopy leg separately.
    - Ropes and straps should be high quality.
    - Bungee or rubber straps are prohibited.
    - Weights must be on the ground and not dangling.
    - Weights and lines must not pose a hazard and be clearly visible.
    - Items that make acceptable weights:
      - 5-gallon bucket full of water, sand, or concrete
      - 4" PVC pipe at least 36" long filled with concrete
      - Large commercially available tent weights
      - Sandbags or salt bags 40lbs or heavier

## Operation Hours

Restaurants utilizing temporary outdoor dining shall comply with the following closing times:

- Friday through Saturday – close by 11:00 PM
- Sunday through Thursday – close by 10:00 PM

## Alcoholic Beverages

Restaurants and food establishments licensed by the State of California will be permitted to sell and allow on-premise consumption of alcoholic beverages within expanded dining areas on private property, on immediately adjacent sidewalks, within parklets and dining areas that have been closed to traffic by the City of Citrus Heights. Establishments that serve alcoholic beverages in the outdoor dining area shall provide a physical barrier that meets the requirements of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board. The applicant is responsible for managing these barriers and removing them when necessary.

## Other Agency Approval

Prior to implementing this program at your business location, please contact the following agencies for information regarding any necessary permits:

Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District: (916) 859-4330

Sacramento Area Sewer District: (916) 876-6100 [permitservcies@sacsewer.com](mailto:permitservcies@sacsewer.com)

## Program Period

Unless extended by the City of Citrus Heights, this program will terminate on December 31, 2020. Businesses desiring to continue with outdoor dining beyond December 31, 2020, will be required to obtain the required permits from the city of Citrus Heights and servicing agencies.

At the conclusion of the program, the outdoor space shall be restored to its original condition.