

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
CITY OF LOWELL

In City Council

ORDINANCE

An Ordinance Amending *The Code of Ordinances of Lowell, Massachusetts*, as amended, by Chapter 243, Article IV Sidewalks Generally by amending §243-23 entitled “Street Seats in the Public Space”.

*The Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell, Massachusetts*, adopted by the City Council on December 23, 2008, is hereby amended with respect to Chapter 243 §243-23 entitled “Street Seats in the Public Space” by extending the termination date to November 1, 2022.

WHEREAS, the City of Lowell, through a temporary program, has authorized restaurants to maintain outdoor seating to allow for greater physical distancing and safety for customers.

WHEREAS, the City of Lowell seeks to now amend the temporary Ordinance by expanding the program through November 1, 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOWELL, as follows:

*The Code of Ordinances City of Lowell, Massachusetts*, (“the Code”) adopted by the City Council on April 26, 1988 as amended, is hereby further amended with respect to Chapter 243-23 by extending the date for outdoor seating to November 1, 2022.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its passage in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 43 and Chapter 44 of Massachusetts General Laws.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Christine P. O'Connor  
City Solicitor



Eileen M. Donoghue  
*City Manager*

Kara Keefe Mullin  
*Assistant City Manager*

April 5, 2022

Mayor Sokhary Chau  
And  
Members of the City Council

**Re: Temporary Outdoor Seating & Other Initiatives to Support Small Businesses**

Dear Mayor Chau and Members of the City Council:

In an effort to continue to provide support during these challenging times, I respectfully request that you renew the City's temporary outdoor seating program from May 1, 2022 through November 1, 2022. Attached is the temporary Ordinance the City successfully implemented the past two years to support restaurants during the pandemic. This was program created to allow restaurants to use more sidewalks, private parking lots, and public rights-of-way. This temporary program, available for the duration of the outdoor dining season, will allow the City to expand its outdoor dining areas and streamline the permitting process to support our local eateries and residents. Restaurants have still not fully recovered from the negative impacts of the global pandemic. This program will be free of charge for restaurants. Prior permit holders will be granted the same permissions as preceding years and we will open up the application portal to accept new restaurants throughout the City who may want to participate.

We have found this temporary program to be incredibly successful as it has enabled customers to feel safe while supporting our local economy during these incredibly unprecedented times. We want to enact a permanent ordinance that will be successful after the City has completely recovered from the impacts of this pandemic.

Sincerely,

Eileen M. Donoghue  
City Manager

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cc: Christine McCall, Assistant City Manager/DPD Director  
Christine P. O'Connor, City Solicitor  
Christine Clancy, DPW Commissioner  
Yovani Baez-Rose, Deputy Director, DPD  
Terry Ryan, Parking Director