

Parklets and Use of Downtown Public Parking

20-0012M

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Context

- COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in state and federal guidelines requiring reduced restaurant capacity
- Many cities have adopted parklet programs to allow for greater restaurant capacity, allow for distance between patrons



- McKinney Restaurant Council proposed a program to allow outdoor dining in on-street spaces
- The City responded with three options for use of outdoor spaces, including short term use, parklet pilot and a proposed McKinney COVID-19 Parklet Program.

Example: Dallas, TX

Parklet Program Proposal

Pilot Program: Staff working with restaurateurs to implement parklets over holiday season (November – January 3)

McKinney COVID-19 Parklet Program:

Carrying forward parameters from short-term program, incorporating lessons learned
Operated by Planning Department, similar to sidewalk lease agreement
Coordination with Main Street

Schedule:

- Pilot Program - currently underway through 01/03/2021.
- Work Session Presentation & Discussion 12/01/2020
- Ordinance and Implementation 12/15/2020 - Expiration
- COVID-19 Parklet Program expires when emergency declarations are lifted unless renewed by Council.

Location requirements

Parklets **MAY**:

- Locate in existing parking spaces
- Limited to streets *not* fronting on Courthouse Square
- Occupy 2 parallel or 3 head-in parking spaces
- Note: Use of parking spaces allows for larger path of travel on sidewalks (in comparison with sidewalk dining)

Parklets **MAY NOT**:

- Locate in existing ADA spaces
- Locate in existing loading spaces
- Locate within 15 feet of an intersection
- Be located within 250 feet of other parklets

Required Elements

- ADA-compliant platform flush (at grade) with sidewalk
- Decorative barrier element on all sides
- 2' clear zone on all sides
- Traffic barriers: approved curb stops or temporary bollards
- Portable fire extinguisher

Not Permitted

- Tents or Canopies
- Portable generators

Optional

- Site Furniture
- Planters
- Heaters that comply with current Fire Code requirements (only during business operating hours)
- Overhead Lighting situated within parklet (additional review/permitting may be required)
- Signage
- Umbrellas
- Lighting, if appropriately placed

Questions and Comments