



CITY OF CHICO OFFICIAL PLANNING DIRECTOR INTERPRETATION

(Section 19.02.020 Procedures for interpretation of the Chico Municipal Code)

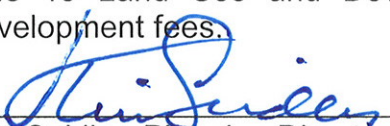
Applicable Code Section: **Section 19.70.040 Number of parking spaces required - Table 5-4A, outdoor dining associated with restaurants, cafes, bars and other eating/drinking establishments**

Interpretation: Parking regulations are designed to provide reasonable requirements to: 1) ensure sufficient parking to meet the needs generated by the proposed use thus avoiding undue interference with public use of streets, 2) encourage use of alternative modes of transportation by providing for adequate and conveniently located bicycle and carpool parking, and 3) protect neighborhoods from the effects of vehicular noise and traffic.

Restaurants, cafes, bars, and other eating/drinking places are required to provide the following minimum off-street vehicle parking spaces- 1 space for each 4 seats or 1 space for each 75 square feet of customer floor area, including outdoor dining, whichever is greater. (*Emphasis added.*) (*Note: For bench seating, every 24 inches equals 1 seat.*)

The requirement to include outdoor dining in the calculation of required off-street parking does not apply to areas that are 185 square feet or less that are designed for seasonal use. Seasonal outdoor dining areas that exceed this size shall have any additional portions included in the calculations for determining off-street parking. Outdoor dining areas that are protected from the weather with a roof are not considered seasonal and are to be included in the calculation.

This Official Interpretation is effective immediately and **will not** require an amendment to Title 19 Land Use and Development Regulations nor will it effect calculation of development fees.



Kim Seidler, Planning Director

Date: November 28, 2005