



NEWS RELEASE
City of Chico
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 15, 2020

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*****MEDIA ALERT*****

CITY OF CHICO TEMPORARILY EXPANDS OUTDOOR DINING AT EXISTING FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS

(Chico, CA – July 15, 2020 –) Due to COVID-19 and Governor Gavin Newsom’s recent actions closing indoor dining at restaurants statewide, the City of Chico has issued an emergency order temporarily expanding outdoor dining at existing restaurants.

This new order will allow food establishments, including all restaurants, wineries, tasting rooms, bars, pubs, brewpubs, and breweries, to apply for a Temporary Use for COVID-19 (Outdoor Dining), allowing them to utilize private common areas such as sidewalks, parking lots, recreation space, and other private space for outdoor dining. These expansion areas must be adjacent to the existing business and may not exceed 100% of normal capacity. The City will require businesses to indemnify the City and to name the City as an insured party to protect the City from liability caused by this significant expansion of land use.

Any structures, paths of travel, and safety features must comply with applicable Federal, State, and/or local codes and are subject to approval and inspection by the City. If an existing restaurant sells or serves alcohol in the expansion area, it must obtain all required Alcoholic Beverage Control approval.

Using Public Right of Way: The City is utilizing the existing Temporary Outdoor Café Permit for businesses who wish to use a public right-of-way – public sidewalk or other public space as part of their expansion area.

“The City of Chico is exploring any and all options to assist our local businesses in their ability to distribute goods and services,” said Mark Orme, City of Chico City Manager. “We hope to give them the tools they need to continue to serve their customers, pay employees, and keep their businesses operating despite these difficult times.”

To apply for Temporary Use to use a business’s private space, businesses may contact the City of Chico Planning Division of the Community Development Department at (530) 879-6800. To apply for a Temporary Outdoor Café Permit, businesses may contact the City of Chico Public Works Department at (530) 879-6900

For more information, please contact Lynda Gizzi, Public Information Officer, at (530) 896-7204.

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