

## **Outdoor Dining Platform Requirements and Guidelines**

Each requirement laid out herein must be satisfied for a dining platform to be considered for approval.

### **Placement and Location of Platform**

Dining Platform means a platform operated by an existing restaurant or food establishment which sells food, beverages or alcoholic beverages for immediate consumption, subject to design guidelines outlined herein, located on a public sidewalk and the abutting parking space in front of the establishment for patrons and other persons. The dining platform cannot straddle two parking spaces, and can only be accessed from the sidewalk. This area provides waiter, waitress, counter and take out service. It contains readily removable tables, chairs, railings or planters, and is enclosed by a railing and open to the air, except that it may have table umbrellas and outdoor heating units. The dining platform is allowable only to businesses abutting sidewalks which are less than 16 feet.

- The width of the dining platform shall not exceed 19' and must be such as to leave a 2 foot clearance at each end contained within the footprint of the designated parking space abutting the applicant's business.
- The dining platform, including all embellishments and attachments, must not protrude more than 6 feet into the designated parking space and may overlap onto the sidewalk a total of 6 feet, while still maintaining a minimum 5 foot wide clear path for public right of way.
- The platform must not be more than 4" above the sidewalk level.
- Dining platforms are to only be located in the nearest parking space abutting the sidewalk in front of the permitted restaurant, unless there are two dining platforms located in close proximity that are requested by the city manager to be located adjacent to each other. This would be done to maximize parking and eliminate the need for a car to parallel park between two dining platforms.
- A dining platform shall not interfere with any public service facility, such as a telephone pole, light post, traffic signal, tree, planter, mailbox, or bench located on a sidewalk or public property. A dining platform may be designed in such a way to incorporate a light post or street tree as these are numerous and permanent fixtures of the streetscape. Any design that incorporates a light post or street tree is subject to review by the City.

- Dining Platforms must be constructed in a way to allow storm water to run adjacent to the curb unobstructed.
- The design of the platforms must meet the Commercial Design Standards for Platform Dining adopted by the Historic District Commission on March 31, 2010.

### **Operation of Platform**

- Permits may be issued for a six month period from May 1 – November 1 and must be completely removed by November 7.
- All dining platforms serving alcoholic beverages shall be allowed to operate during the hours of 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 a.m., Monday through Saturday (Saturday defined as 1:00 a.m. Sunday morning), and Sunday during the hours of 12:00 p.m. (noon) until 10:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday sales and service shall cease by 12:30 a.m. and all areas shall be vacated by 1:00 a.m. Sunday sales and service shall cease by 9:30 p.m. and all areas shall be vacated by 10:00 p.m.
- Dining platforms must remain clear of litter, food scraps, and soiled dishes at all times. This includes areas on, around, next to, or underneath the platform.
- Operation of a dining platform shall not adversely impact adjacent or nearby properties and shall be in accordance with all applicable codes and regulations.
- Each permit application for a dining platform shall be accompanied by a policy or certificate of insurance and general liability insurance, in an amount acceptable to the city, including workers compensation, naming the city as an additional insured. Establishments serving alcohol shall also provide a liquor liability policy or certificate of insurance naming the city as an additional insured.
- All alcoholic beverages to be served at dining platforms shall be prepared within the existing restaurant, and alcoholic beverages shall only be served to patrons seated at tables. The operator of the dining platform shall take all necessary action to procure the appropriate license or permit from the M.L.C.C. to serve alcoholic beverages on the dining platform and shall comply with all other laws and regulations concerning the serving of alcoholic beverages in the state.

- All food to be served at a dining platform shall be prepared within the existing establishment unless approved by the city council as part of a special event application request.
- The restaurant shall not serve food or beverages to a patron at a dining platform unless that patron is seated at a table.
- During the off-season, chairs, railings, posts, the dining platform structure, planters, table umbrellas, and other items shall be removed and shall be stored off site. It shall be the responsibility of the establishment to secure adequate storage of these items.
- The maintenance of a dining platform shall be the responsibility of the establishment including but not limited to, surface treatment and cleaning, litter control, sweeping, and snow and ice removal. The sidewalk and public property shall be kept neat and clean at all times and free from any substance that may cause damage to the sidewalk or public property or cause pedestrian injury.
- The owner of the dining platform will assume full responsibility for damage to public property caused by the placement and operation of a dining platform. The owner will also repair any damage to public property at their own expense.
- Advertising on table umbrellas or railings is prohibited. No banners shall be permitted to hang from the dining platforms.
- Any person or establishment granted a permit by the city manager to operate a dining platform on public sidewalks, parking spaces, or public property shall pay to the city treasurer a fee in the amount as established by resolution of the city council.

Adopted by the Northville City Council on April 19, 2010