

KALAMAZOO OUTDOOR DINING UPDATE



Why are outdoor dining standards being updated?

Updating the standards for outdoor dining provides clarity and consistency for businesses who use outdoor spaces for dining. Additionally, the updates to the application and fee structure makes navigating the application and review process simpler. This document highlights some of the updates made.

Where do the outdoor dining guidelines apply?

These guidelines apply to any outdoor dining within the City's public right-of-way in downtown Kalamazoo, including the area between the building and the curb, within a public street along the curb, or in public parking lots or other public spaces.

What are the different types of outdoor dining?

There are two types of outdoor dining that can be applied for:

Sidewalk cafés are outdoor dining areas located in front of the host business building and is located within a section of the right-of-way or sidewalk.

Street Patios and/or **Parklets** are outdoor dining areas located directly adjacent to the host business within a parking space or spaces.

Does it cost money to apply, and how long does approval last?

There is still an application and fee to install outdoor dining, but the form, review process and fee structure have been updated. Street patios, also known as parklets, are permitted annually at a cost of \$250 plus any meter bagging fees. Sidewalk cafes are permitted annually at a cost of \$150 with a \$50 renewal option for a second year under certain circumstances.

When is outdoor dining allowed?

The Outdoor Dining Season is between April 1st and December 1st. During that time, outdoor dining areas can be used until 11 PM.

What furniture is allowed for outdoor dining?

Tables, chairs, planters, umbrellas or shade structures, heaters and barriers/fencing are permitted for outdoor dining as long as they follow the Outdoor Dining Guidelines.

Can outdoor dining furniture be left out all year?

Host businesses shall be responsible for removing outdoor dining materials, including fencing, from the right-of-way at the end of the outdoor dining season. Outdoor dining materials may not be stored within the right-of-way at the end of the outdoor dining season.